FukuyaDou Honpo

福堂本舗

1

遊知 やよみ

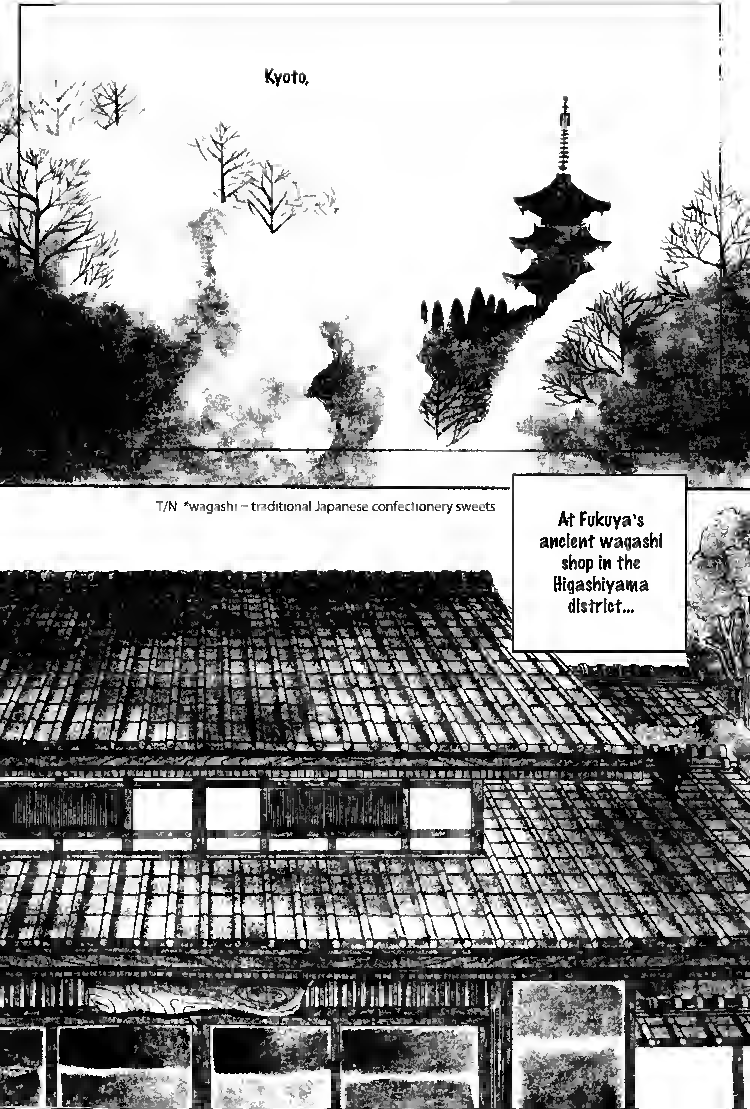
Story & Illustrated by

YAYOMI YUCHI

AUTHOR'S NOTE

When I first planned to write a manga about a traditional confectionery shop, I intended Fukuya's to be the oldest confectionery shop in Kyoto with 350 years of history. However, later I found a 400 year old sweet shop already exists, so I promptly changed mine to be 450 years old. This story is about the three sisters of Kyoto's Fukuya's.

- Yuchi Yayomi


Kyoto,
T/N *wagashi – traditional Japanese confectionery sweets
At Fukuya's ancient wagashi shop in the Higashiyama district...

THEY SAY SOME CREEPY SOUND
WAS COMING FROM THE EMPTY HOUSE ACROSS FROM TANABE-SAN'S PLACE
REALLY?
REALLY.
THERE ARE STONE STEPS IN FRONT OF THAT HOUSE, RIGHT?
THEY SAY THAT ONCE YOU REACH THE NINTH STEP, YOU'LL SEE A LIGHT FLASHING INSIDE THE BUILDING
THEN YOU'LL HEAR A STRANGE SOUND,
AND ONCE YOU PEEK INSIDE, A SHADOW OF A LONG-HAIRED WOMAN IN KIMONO...
NONSENSE.

I SUDDENLY REMEMBERED THAT I HAVE SOMETHING TO DO
STOP RIGHT THERE.
WHIPPING BIZARRE STORIES OUT OF THIN AIR AGAIN,
YESTERDAY'S SALES CAME UP SHORT THIS MORNING.
MOM...
AND THAT CONCERNS ME BECAUSE...?
BECAUSE IT CONCERNS YOU!
YOU CAME BACK AT DAWN AGAIN, DIDN'T YOU? I'M SO ASHAMED. WHAT WILL THE NEIGHBORS THINK?!
I'M TAKING IT BACK.
Stingy Mom

I am collateral damage.
MY NAME IS FUKUYOSHI HANA,
THE THIRD DAUGHTER OF THE JAPANESE CONFECTIONER, FUKUYA.
HANA, HURRY UP AND GO TO SCHOOL
HINA WENT OUT TO TEND THE SHOP AGES AGO AND YOU'RE STILL IN YOUR PAJAMAS.
.....
FOR A TEA CEREMONY ?
OHASHI-SENSEI?
MADAM, OHASHI-SENSEI PHONED IN AN ORDER. HOW SHOULD WE TAKE CARE OF IT?
MY MOTHER ..
I'M AFRAID SHE'LL FIND FAULT IN THE SHAPES AND COLORS AGAIN.
MY— THAT SENSEI LOVES TO NITPICK.

HAS RUN THE SHOP BY HERSELF SINCE MY FATHER PASSED AWAY TEN YEARS AGO. SHE'S A FORMIDABLE WOMAN
IT'S GOING TO BRING HEADACHES LIKE THE LAST TEA CEREMONY.
BUT I CAN'T SIMPLY REFUSE HER ORDER.
HANA.
HANA.
YOU WALK BY THAT HOUSE EVERYDAY, DON'T YOU? CHECK IF THE RUMOR IS TRUE FOR ME
ARARE-CHAN, YOU CAN'T COME INTO THE STOREFRONT IN YOUR PAJAMAS. MOM WILL BE MAD
IT'S OKAY.
SHE'S ALWAYS MAD AT ME ANYWAY

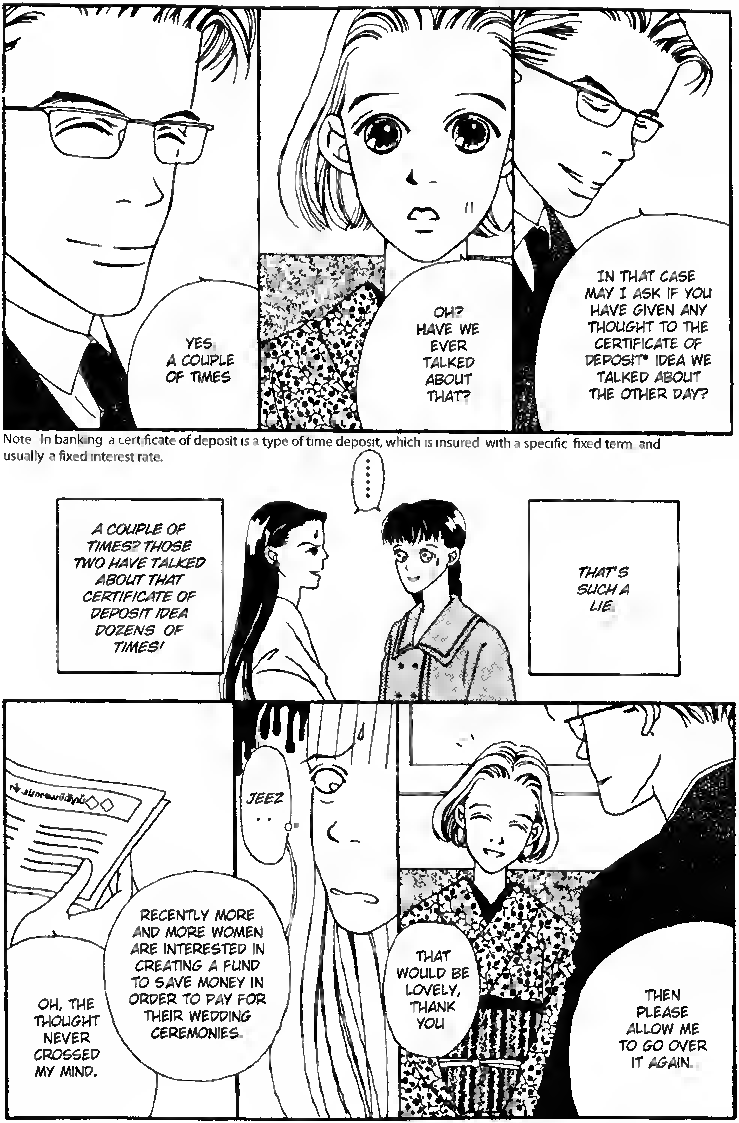
ARARE FINISHED HER DEGREE LAST YEAR BUT SHE'S STILL JOBLESS AND STILL GOES PARTYING EVERY NIGHT
SHE'S A CAREFREE GIRL WHO LOVES TO HAVE FUN.
ARARE-CHAN NEVER FAILS TO MAKE MOM ANGRY, BUT I LOVE HER DEARLY.
DID YOU GROW TALLER AGAIN?
YEAH.
.....
YOUR NECK AND LIMBS ARE SO LONG.
YOU'RE STILL IN MIDDLE SCHOOL AND YOU'RE ALREADY TALLER THAN I AM.
T/N: noren* = shop curtain
EEEK!
ARARE, THE NOREN*!
WHY DIDN'T MOM MAKE ME TALL AND SLENDER LIKE YOU?

T/N: *In Japanese folklore, the tanuki (raccoon dog) is reputed to be mischievous, master of disguise and a shape-shifter.

ONEE-CHAN, THAT GUY FROM K-BANK IS HERE.
I SEE.
HERE TO COLLECT THE DEPOSIT AS USUAL?
PLEASE DO COME IN.
Storm
ARARE-SAN
I THINK IT'S A LITTLE TOO COLD TO SLEEP OUTSIDE THIS TIME OF YEAR.
CRAP.
PLEASE EXCUSE ME

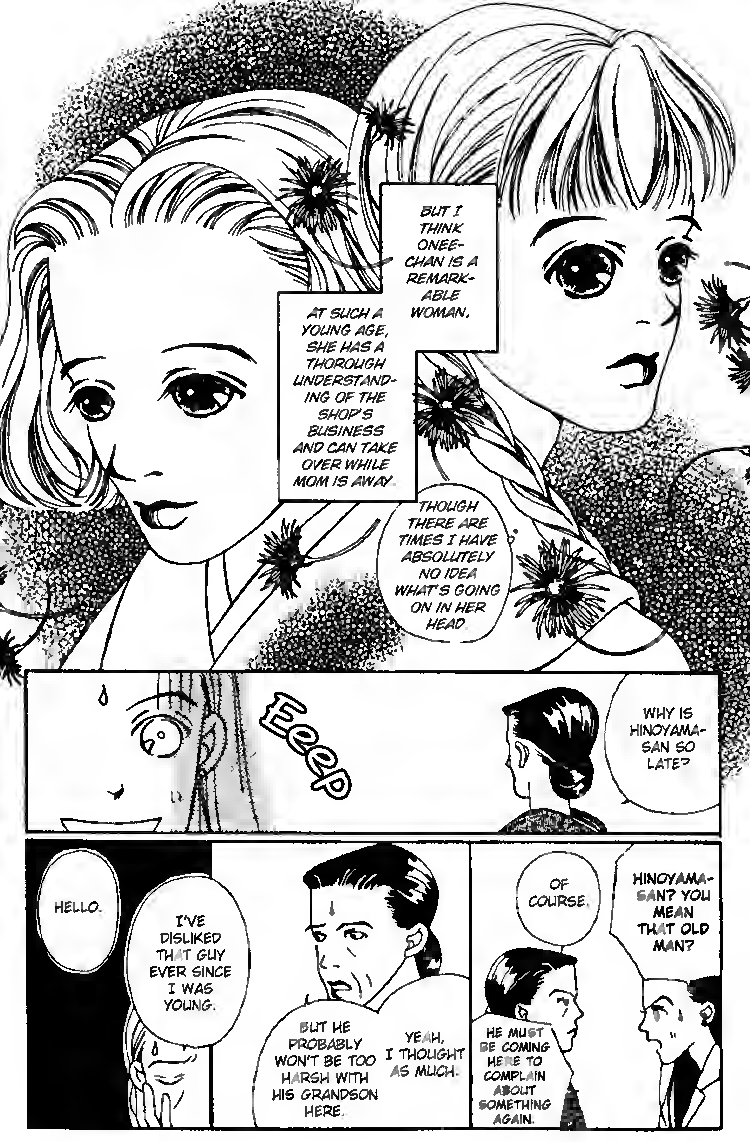
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALWAYS STOPPING OFF HERE BEFORE GOING TO WORK
IT'S NOTHING, THE SHOP IS ON MY WAY
THIS IS EMBAR-RASSING...
.....
HE MUST HAVE SEEN ME LAST NIGHT. I WAS SO WASTED I JUST PASSED OUT ON STREET
?
?
EH? ABOUT US?
WELL ACTUALLY, I HEARD SOME NEWS CONCERNING FUKUYA'S
WE'LL BE DELIGHTED TO OFFER A GENEROUS LOAN.
K-BANK AND FUKUYA'S HAVE HAD A LONG-STANDING RELATIONSHIP, AND IF THE RUMOR IS TRUE,
RUMOR HAS IT THAT FUKUYA'S IS LOOKING TO EXPAND AND OPEN A NEW BRANCH

A GROUND-LESS RUMOR, REALLY
HAVING IT MENTIONED OUT OF THE BLUE LIKE THIS IS QUITE ALARMING!
WE HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO INTENTION OF OPENING A NEW SHOP
A NEW BRANCH?
THIS IS THE FIRST I HEAR OF IT.
IS THAT SO.
.....
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
MOM HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY CONTEMPLATING OPENING A BRANCH IN THE SAGANO DISTRICT FOR YEARS.
.....


YES. A COUPLE OF TIMES
OH? HAVE WE EVER TALKED ABOUT THAT?
IN THAT CASE MAY I ASK IF YOU HAVE GIVEN ANY THOUGHT TO THE CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT* IDEA WE TALKED ABOUT THE OTHER DAY?
A COUPLE OF TIMES? THOSE TWO HAVE TALKED ABOUT THAT CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT IDEA DOZENS OF TIMES!
.....
THAT'S SUCH A LIE.
JEEZ
RECENTLY MORE AND MORE WOMEN ARE INTERESTED IN CREATING A FUND TO SAVE MONEY IN ORDER TO PAY FOR THEIR WEDDING CEREMONIES.
OH, THE THOUGHT NEVER CROSSED MY MIND.
THAT WOULD BE LOVELY, THANK YOU
THEN PLEASE ALLOW ME TO GO OVER IT AGAIN.

Note In banking a certificate of deposit is a type of time deposit, which is insured with a specific fixed term and usually a fixed interest rate.

FROM AN INDEPENDENT YOUNG LADY SUCH AS YOURSELF, SUCH A STATEMENT COMES AS NO SURPRISE.
I SEE
WHY, THANK YOU.
!!!
I SAY THOSE TWO ARE A GOOD MATCH.
OUR ANGEL-FACED SISTER IS AN EXPERT AT LYING THROUGH HER TEETH, ISN'T SHE?
ARARE-CHAN OFTEN TALKS BADLY ABOUT ONEE-CHAN.
!
HER FACE MIGHT LOOKS SINCERE, BUT YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT SHE'S THINKING.
HANA, DON'T BE FOOLED BY ONEE-CHAN'S FALSE FACADE.

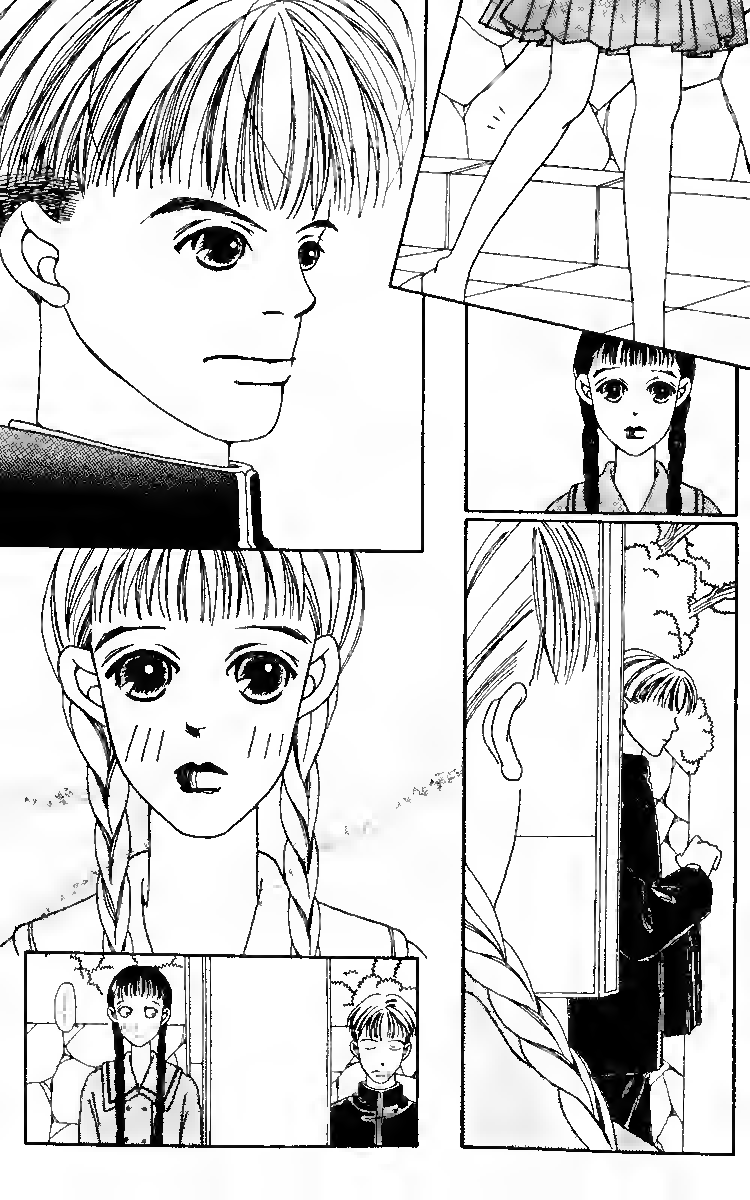

BUT I THINK ONEE-CHAN IS A REMARK-ABLE WOMAN.
AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE, SHE HAS A THOROUGH UNDERSTAND-ING OF THE SHOP'S BUSINESS AND CAN TAKE OVER WHILE MOM IS AWAY.
THOUGH THERE ARE TIMES I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON IN HER HEAD.
Eeep
WHY IS HINOYAMA-SAN SO LATE?
HELLO.
I'VE DISLIKED THAT GUY EVER SINCE I WAS YOUNG.
BUT HE PROBABLY WON'T BE TOO HARSH WITH HIS GRANDSON HERE.
YEAH, I THOUGHT AS MUCH.
OF COURSE.
HE MUST BE COMING HERE TO COMPLAIN ABOUT SOMETHING AGAIN.
HINOYAMA-SAN? YOU MEAN THAT OLD MAN?

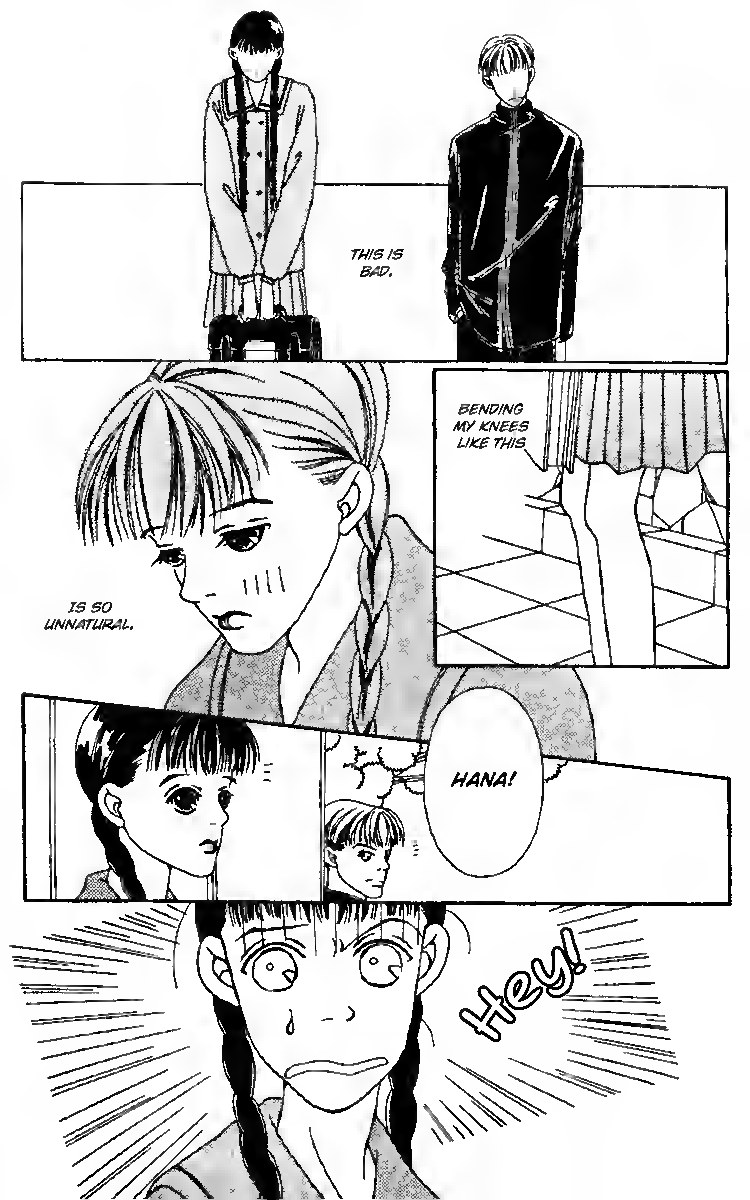
SORRY FOR INTERRUPT -ING...
.....
.....
IT'S HIM.
Gulp
OH, HINOYAMA-SAN! THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALWAYS COMING HERE TO SUPPORT US
Eh?
PLEASE, COME IN FOR SOME TEA.
Hana, go clean the shop

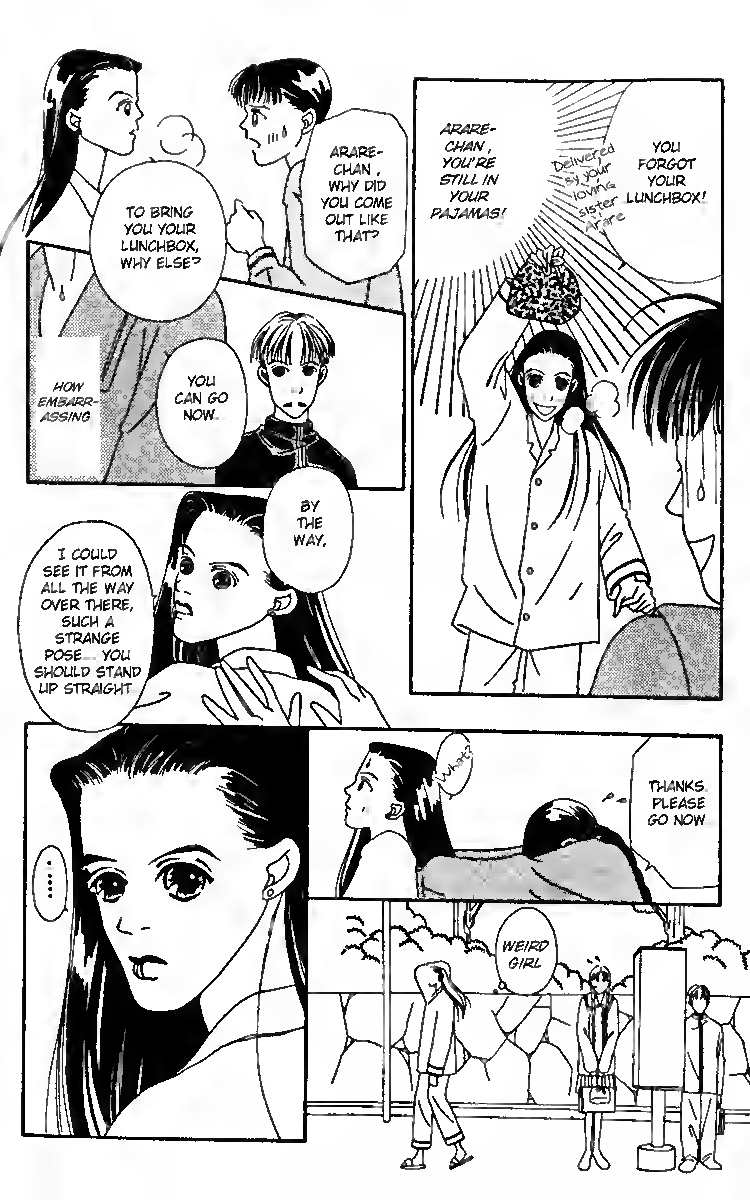
BITING REMARKS AGAIN.
.....
GOOD GIRL
YOU WOKE UP EARLY TODAY
PAJAMAS
ARE WE HAVING A FAMILY REUNION TODAY? IS SOMETHING GOING ON?
ARARE!
AND AREN'T YOU AS HEALTHY AS ALWAYS?
THEY SAY THE MORE PEOPLE HATE YOU, THE LONGER YOU LIVE. YOU MUST BE ANCIENT!
YOU'RE HERE TOO?
Gaahh, Foul Mouthed Old Man!
Arara!
GOOD MORNING SIR.
IT'S FOR WORK, GRANDPA.
HA HA
NO WONDER YOU CAN'T FIND A BOYFRIEND.

HINOYAMA-SAN FROM K-BANK IS THE GRANDSON OF THIS GRANDFATHER, HINOYAMA-SAN.
I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND.
BE CAREFUL OF THE LADIES AROUND HERE.
.....
WHAT A PAIR THE TWO MAKE.
GRANDPA HINOYAMA IS A WELL-KNOWN ICON IN THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD
sweep
They're both so shy.
IF ONEE-CHAN IS A TANUKI, THEN MOM IS A FOX
I'M OFF.

WHAT AN EVENTFUL MORNING.
ARARE HAS A HABIT OF COMPARING PEOPLE TO ANIMALS.
SHE ONCE SAID I WAS LIKE A FAWN.
WHILE I...
ARARE ENVIES MY 165CM HEIGHT.
HANA FORGOT HER LUNCHBOX.
ARARE, COULD YOU BRING IT TO HER?
IF YOU THINK THIS ARARE IS A DELIVERY SERVICE...!
THEN I'LL BRING IT TO HER MYSELF, BUT PLEASE KEEP HINOYAMA-SAN COMPANY IN MY ABSENCE, WOULD YOU?




THIS IS BAD.
BENDING MY KNEES LIKE THIS
IS SO UNNATURAL.
HANA!
Hey!


ARARE-CHAN, WHY DID YOU COME OUT LIKE THAT?
TO BRING YOU YOUR LUNCHBOX, WHY ELSE?
HOW EMBARR-ASSING
YOU CAN GO NOW.
ARARE-CHAN, YOU'RE STILL IN YOUR PAJAMAS!
Delivered by your loving sister Arare
YOU FORGOT YOUR LUNCHBOX!
BY THE WAY,
I COULD SEE IT FROM ALL THE WAY OVER THERE, SUCH A STRANGE POSE... YOU SHOULD STAND UP STRAIGHT
.....
Whew?
THANKS. PLEASE GO NOW
WEIRD GIRL

Class 2 / 6
I MISSED MY CHANCE AGAIN THIS MORNING
AHA!
I CAN'T BELIEVE ARARE-CHAN RUINED THE MOMENT JUST BY SHOWING UP
GOSH, I WISH I COULD TALK TO IORI-KUN NORMALLY.
THAT WOULD BE GREAT.
……

gulp
NO...
FUKUI-YOSHI.
WHY DO I ALWAYS END UP WITH THIS KIND OF JOB?
PLEASE HELP ME PUT THE YEARLY SCHEDULE UP.
!
flap
IF YOU CAN'T REACH IT, IORI,
THEN GET SOMEONE TALLER TO HELP YOU
.....

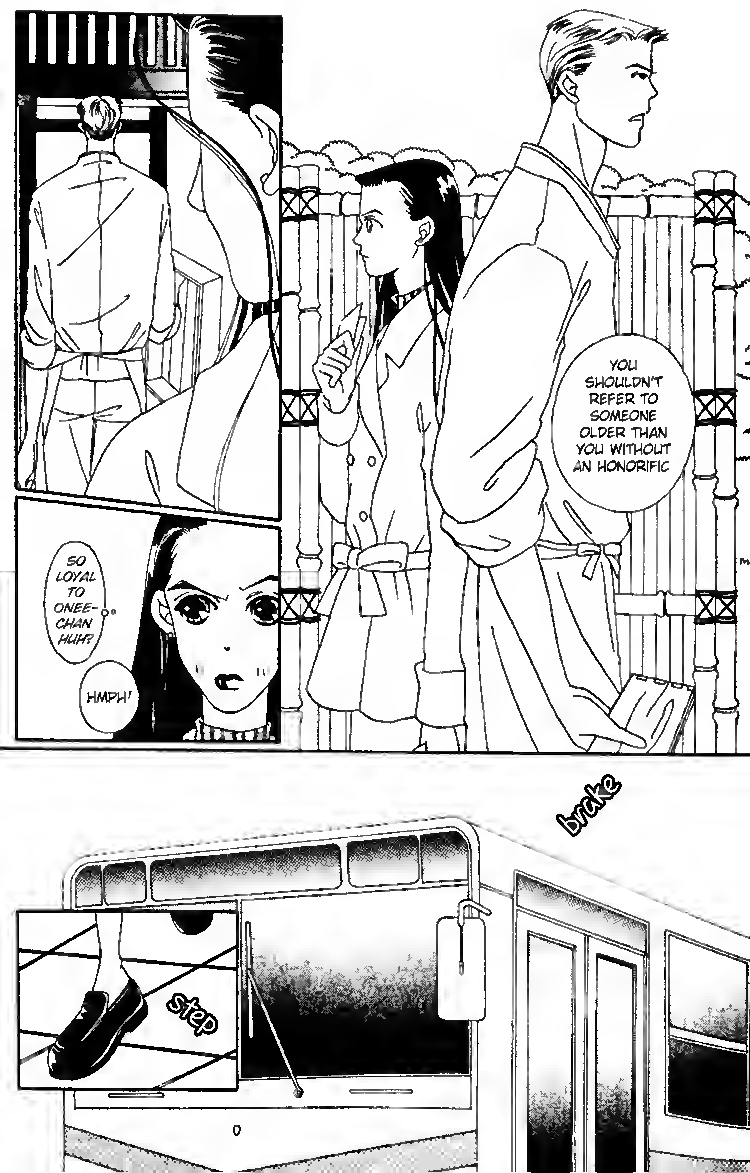
.....
.....
.....
WHAT A FUNNY PAIR YOU TWO MAKE STANDING SIDE BY SIDE LIKE THAT

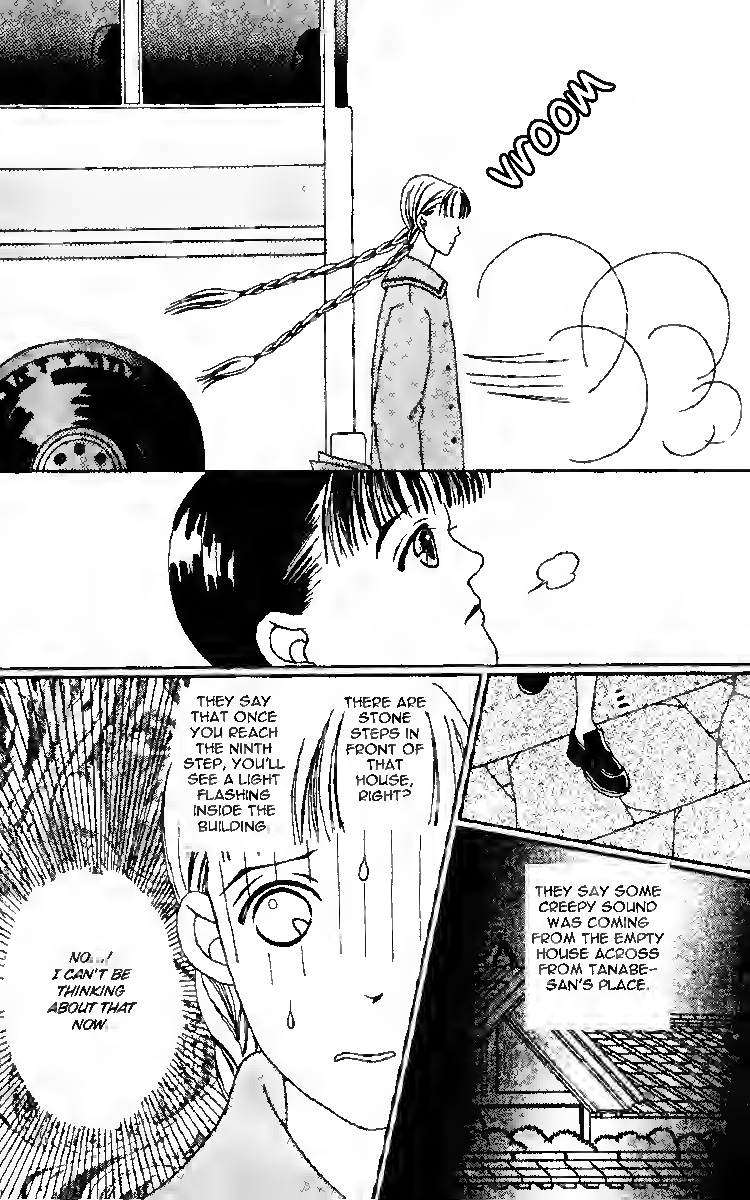
!
YOU'RE WHAT... 20CM TALLER THAN HE IS?
FUKUYOSHI, YOU LOOK MORE MANLY THAN IORI DOES
OH, GOD...
I WONDER WHAT YOUR FAMILY FEEDS YOU
.....
SENSEI. WE'RE GOING TO BE LATE FOR FIRST PERIOD

DEAR GOD...
AH, YOU'RE RIGHT.
THIS IS THE WORST DAY EVER.

I JUST WANT TO HAVE TEA WITH MASAMI-CHAN FROM KYOUGOKUYA'S
MY! YOU SOUND LIKE A 6 YEAR-OLD
ONEE-CHAN CAN I HAVE SOME MONEY, PRETTY PLEASE?
YOU ALWAYS GO OUT DRINKING AND COME BACK LATE AT NIGHT MOM DOESN'T LIKE THAT, YOU KNOW
I'LL THINK ABOUT IT
YOU'LL GET MORE MONEY TO SPEND, TOO
WHY DON'T YOU MAKE HER HAPPY BY OFFERING TO HELP OUT IN THE SHOP SOMETIMES?
Thanks!
Mom's going to know you dipped into the shop's money
slide

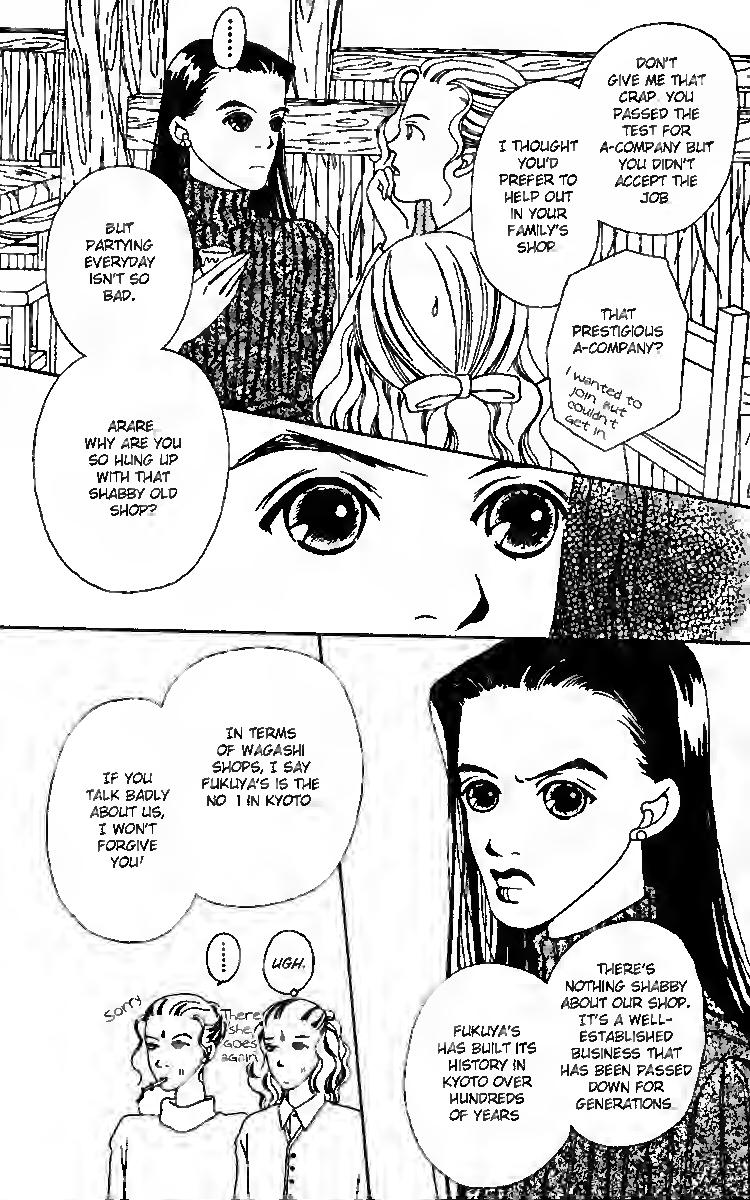
IT'S RELIEVING TO KNOW THAT FUKUYA'S EMPLOYS SUCH A DILIGENT WAGASHI CHEF
WORKING HARD EVERYDAY TO PLEASE ONEE-CHAN THANKS FOR YOUR EFFORTS
POOR KENJI
.....


YOU SHOULDN'T REFER TO SOMEONE OLDER THAN YOU WITHOUT AN HONORIFIC
SO LOYAL TO ONEE-... CHAN HUH?
HMPH!
brake
step


vroom
THEY SAY SOME CREEPY SOUND WAS COMING FROM THE EMPTY HOUSE ACROSS FROM TANABE-SAN'S PLACE.
THERE ARE STONE STEPS IN FRONT OF THAT HOUSE, RIGHT?
THEY SAY THAT ONCE YOU REACH THE NINTH STEP, YOU'LL SEE A LIGHT FLASHING INSIDE THE BUILDING.
NO...! I CAN'T BE THINKING ABOUT THAT NOW.

4
2
3
I DIDN'T WANT TO COUNT BUT I COULDN'T HELP IT.
7
5
8
6
rustle
9
!
rustle

Kyaaa
Kyaaaahhh
Kyaaa
THUD
THEY THINK I'M A LOUSY FREELOADER, YOU KNOW.
JEEZ, ARARE. IT'S BECAUSE YOU DO NOTHING BUT PLAY.
BUT FINDING A JOB IS BOTHERSOME.
.....

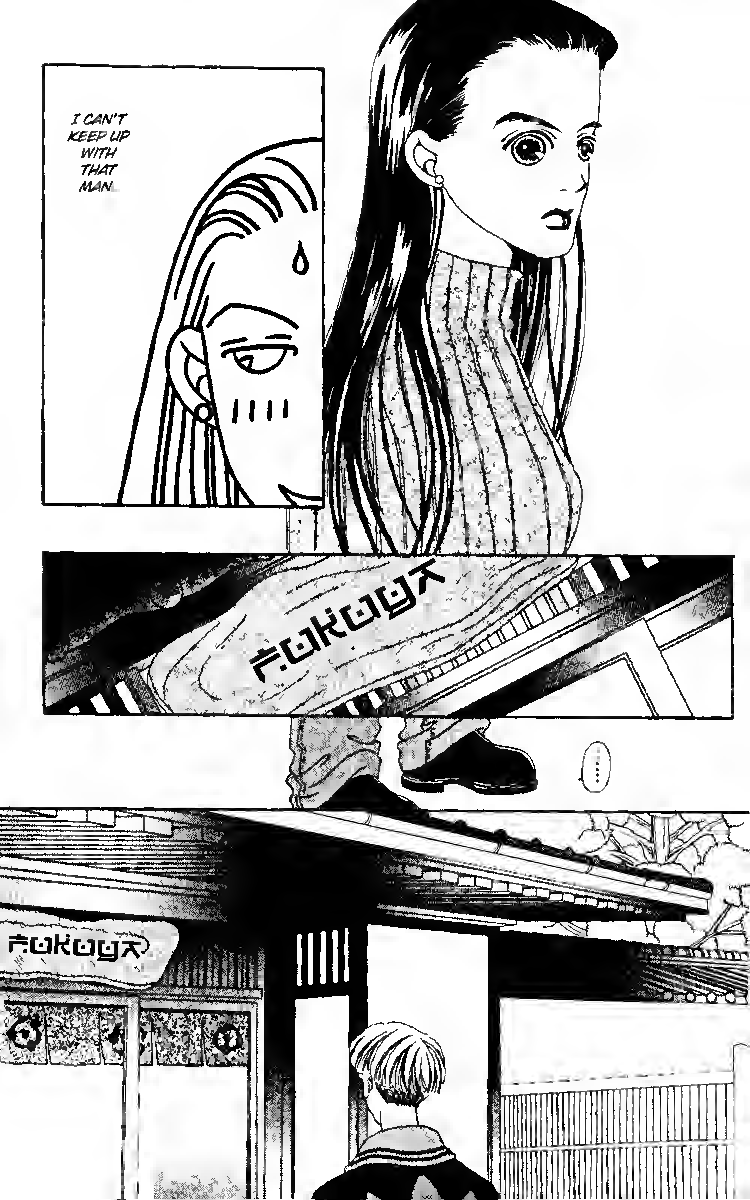

.....
BUT PARTYING EVERYDAY ISN'T SO BAD.
ARARE WHY ARE YOU SO HUNG UP WITH THAT SHABBY OLD SHOP?
I THOUGHT YOU'D PREFER TO HELP OUT IN YOUR FAMILY'S SHOP
DON'T GIVE ME THAT CRAP. YOU PASSED THE TEST FOR A-COMPANY BUT YOU DIDN'T ACCEPT THE JOB
THAT PRESTIGIOUS A-COMPANY?
I wanted to join, but couldn't get in
IF YOU TALK BADLY ABOUT US, I WON'T FORGIVE YOU!
IN TERMS OF WAGASHI SHOPS, I SAY FUKUYA'S IS THE NO 1 IN KYOTO
.....
UGH.
sorry
There she goes again
FUKUYA'S HAS BUILT ITS HISTORY IN KYOTO OVER HUNDREDS OF YEARS
THERE'S NOTHING SHABBY ABOUT OUR SHOP. IT'S A WELL-ESTABLISHED BUSINESS THAT HAS BEEN PASSED DOWN FOR GENERATIONS

WE HAVE THE BEST WAGASHI CHEFS.
OUR SWEETS ARE CRAFTED WITH ATTENTION TO DETAIL IN BOTH SHAPE AND COLOR. ANYONE WOULD FEEL HIS MOUTH WATERING JUST BY LOOKING AT THEM.
SPEAKING OF CHEFS, ISN'T THERE A CUTE ONE AT YOUR SHOP?
HE'S NOT BAD LOOKING AT ALL...
YEAH, I REMEMBER HIM. WHAT'S HIS NAME AGAIN?
ARARE, TELL, TELL!
I'LL GET SOME CIGARETTES
ARARE!
clank
slide
HMPH! I HAD NO IDEA THEY WERE SO INTERESTED IN KEN-CHAN
AH.
ACK!
MR. TANUKI AGAIN!

HINOYAMA
YES.
I DIDN'T SEE HIM.
.....
turn
ARARE-SAN.
I'LL PRETEND I DIDN'T SEE HIM.
sigh
OH, I'VE GOT AN IDEA.
WHAT IF I GET WASTED AGAIN?
LIKE I WANT HIM TO SEE ME WHILE I'M DRINKING.
YEAH
EH? ARARE, LEAVING SO SOON?

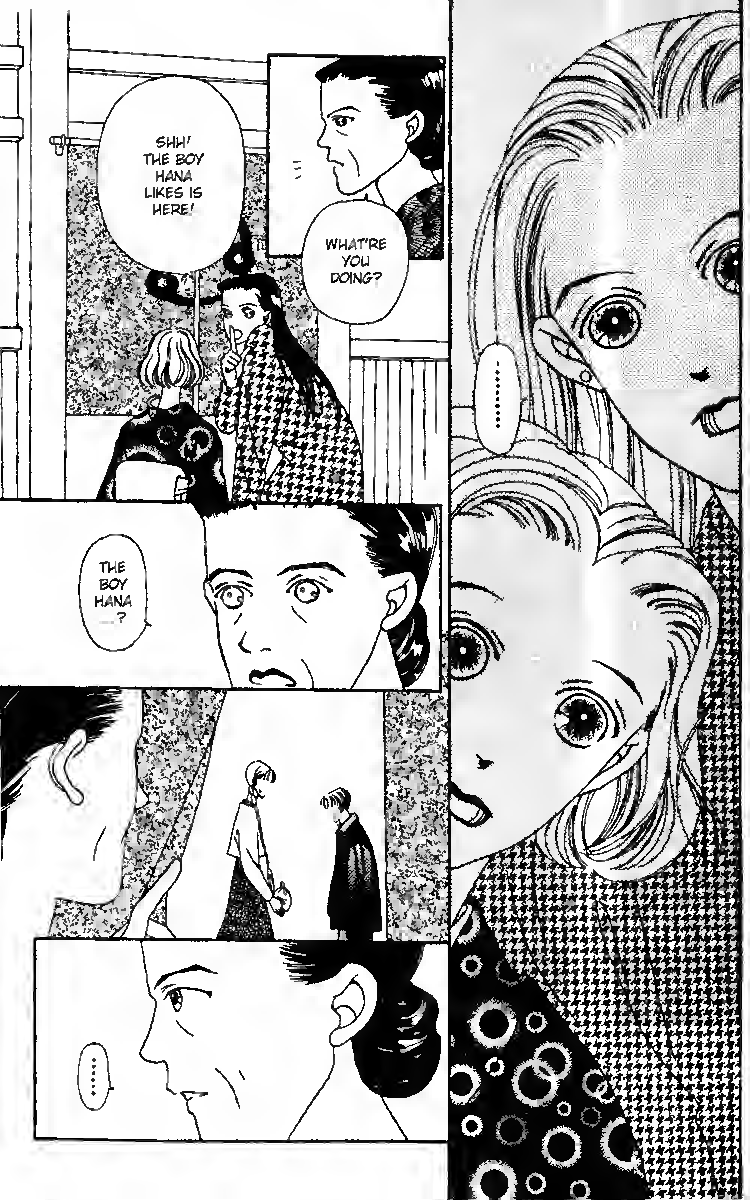
OH, ISN'T THAT HINOYAMA-SAN?
WHAT A COINCIDENCE
I'LL MAKE MR.TANUKI TREAT ME TO A MEAL.
.....
WELL, THANK YOU FOR THIS MORNING. HOW SWEET OF YOU TO COME TO OUR SHOP ALMOST EVERYDAY
I'M SORRY BUT, WHO ARE YOU?
WHAT?!

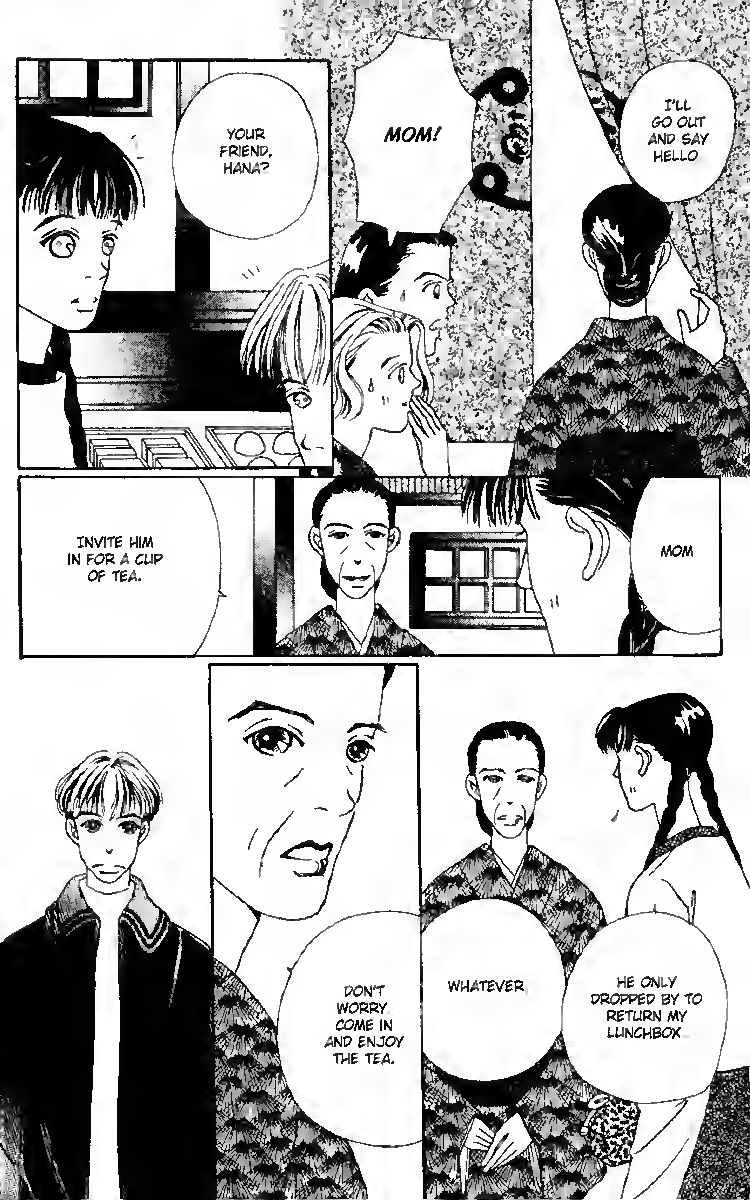
YOU LOOK SIMILAR TO ONE OF FUKUYA'S DAUGHTERS, BUT I'M NOT SO SURE.
HOW STRANGE I USUALLY DON'T FORGET THE FACE OF A BEAUTIFUL LADY
THIS TANUKI!
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME
AH.
UH
CRAP THE PLAN BACKFIRED
OH
YES.
CHECK PLEASE.
ERM. HINOYAMA-SAN ALREADY PAID FOR IT


I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH THAT MAN.
FUKUOKA
FUKUOKA

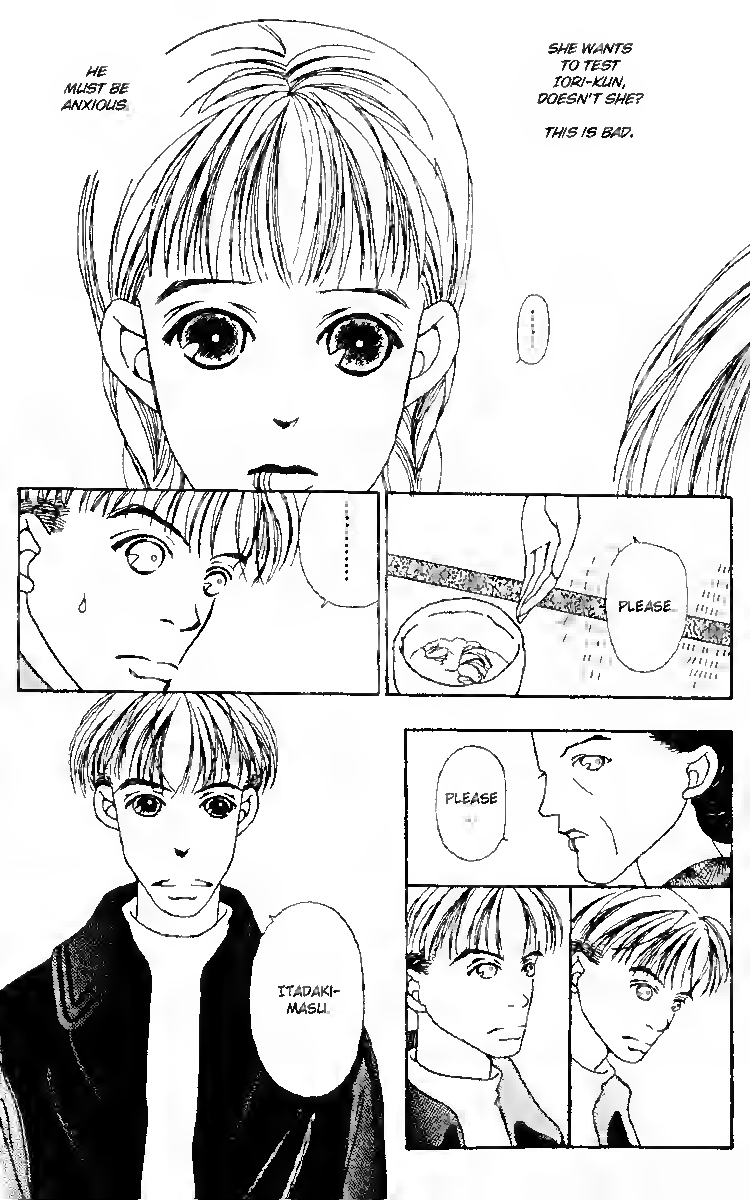
WHOA
side
WELCOME

YOU DROPPED THIS BY THE STONE STEPS NEAR THE BUS STOP YESTERDAY.
UH
WELL
I WAS WALKING BEHIND YOU THAT TIME.
I'M SORRY I SCARED YOU.
WELL
.....
THAT'S ALL


SHH! THE BOY HANA LIKES IS HERE!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
.....
THE BOY HANA ...?
.....

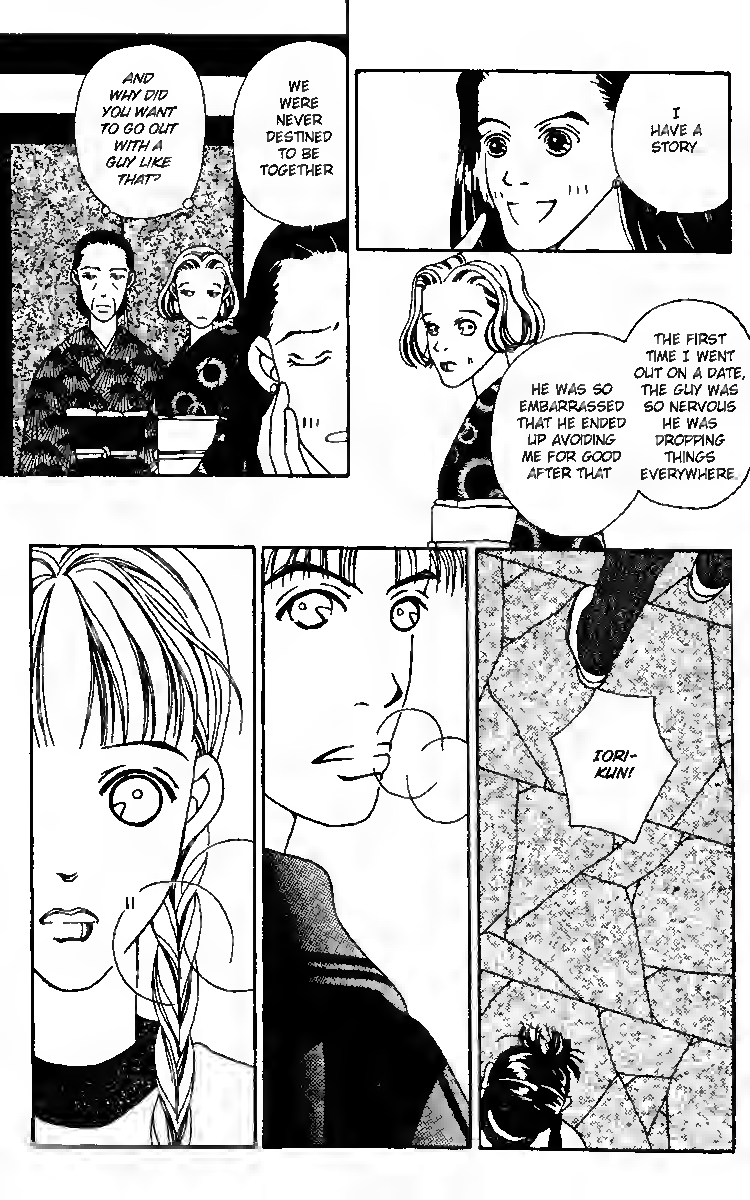

I'LL GO OUT AND SAY HELLO
MOM!
YOUR FRIEND, HANA?
MOM
INVITE HIM IN FOR A CUP OF TEA.
HE ONLY DROPPED BY TO RETURN MY LUNCHBOX
WHATEVER
DON'T WORRY COME IN AND ENJOY THE TEA.

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?
.....
I'm not getting involved in this.
IS SHE GOING TO EMBARRASS IORI-KUN?
I'M FROM A WAGASHI SHOP FAMILY, SO IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT I KNOW HOW TO BEHAVE IN A TEA CEREMONY.
BUT IORI-KUN IS A BOY FROM AN ORDINARY HOME.
HE CAN'T POSSIBLY KNOW THE STEPS AND FORMAL ETIQUETTE.


HE MUST BE ANXIOUS.
SHE WANTS TO TEST IORI-KUN, DOESN'T SHE?
THIS IS BAD.
.....
.....
PLEASE.
PLEASE
ITADAKI-MASU.

gulp
thunk
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
PLEASE EXCUSE ME
IORI-KUN!

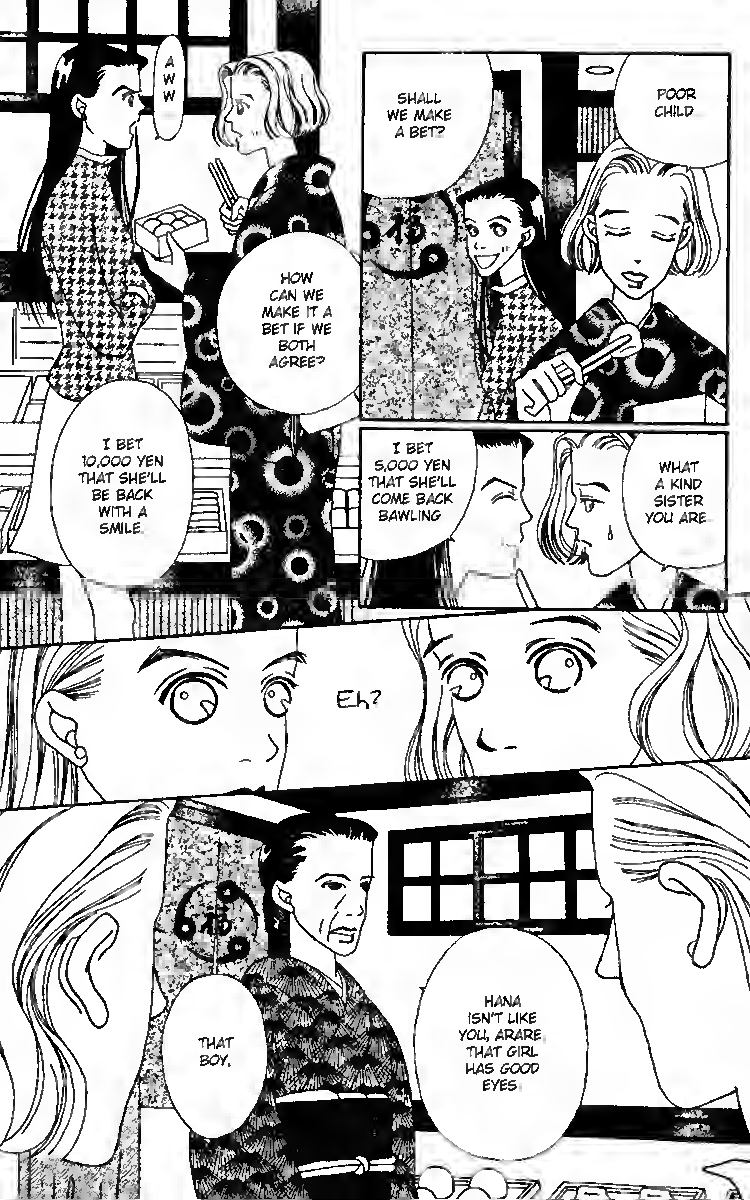
IORI-KUN!
WHAT?
MOM, THAT WASN'T VERY NICE
DON'T PLAY DUMB
I FEEL SORRY FOR HANA
TEENAGERS' LOVE CAN BE BROKEN OVER THE SLIGHTEST THING.
SOME CAN EVEN TURN IT INTO BITTER MEMORIES THAT HAUNT THEM FOR LIFE.


AND WHY DID YOU WANT TO GO OUT WITH A GUY LIKE THAT?
WE WERE NEVER DESTINED TO BE TOGETHER
I HAVE A STORY
THE FIRST TIME I WENT OUT ON A DATE, THE GUY WAS SO NERVOUS HE WAS DROPPING THINGS EVERYWHERE
HE WAS SO EMBARRASSED THAT HE ENDED UP AVOIDING ME FOR GOOD AFTER THAT
IORI-KUN!

I..
EH? N-NO. MOM WAS JUST BEING SILLY. I DON'T KNOW WHAT SHE WAS THINKING.
DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE TEA CEREMONY.
I'M SO SORRY.

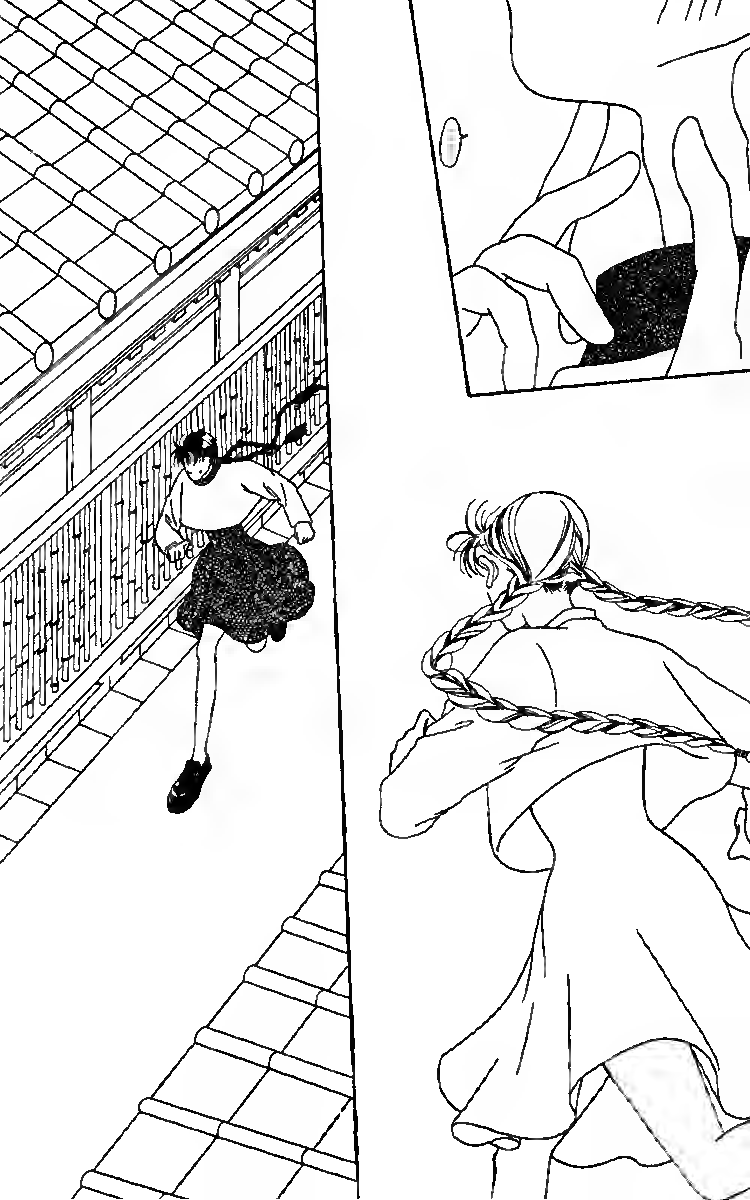
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS SINCE EVEN BEFORE WE WERE IN THE SAME CLASS...
ACTUALLY,
THE REAL REASON I WENT TO YOUR HOUSE WAS TO TELL YOU SOMETHING, FUKUYOSHI
I THINK YOUR GRACEFUL NECK AND LIMBS ARE BEAUTIFUL... MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN ANYONE ELSE'S

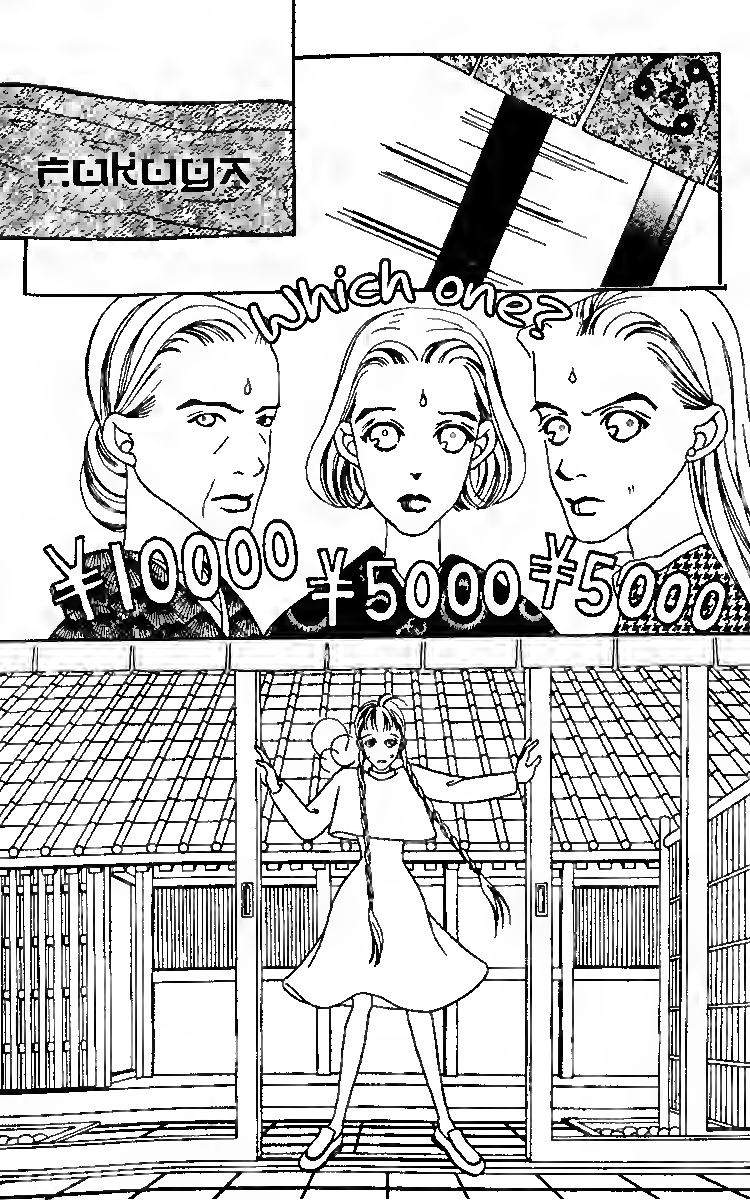
I WONDER IF HANA WILL COME BACK CRYING
I'LL LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TEA CEREMONY AND COME BACK SOMETIME
.....

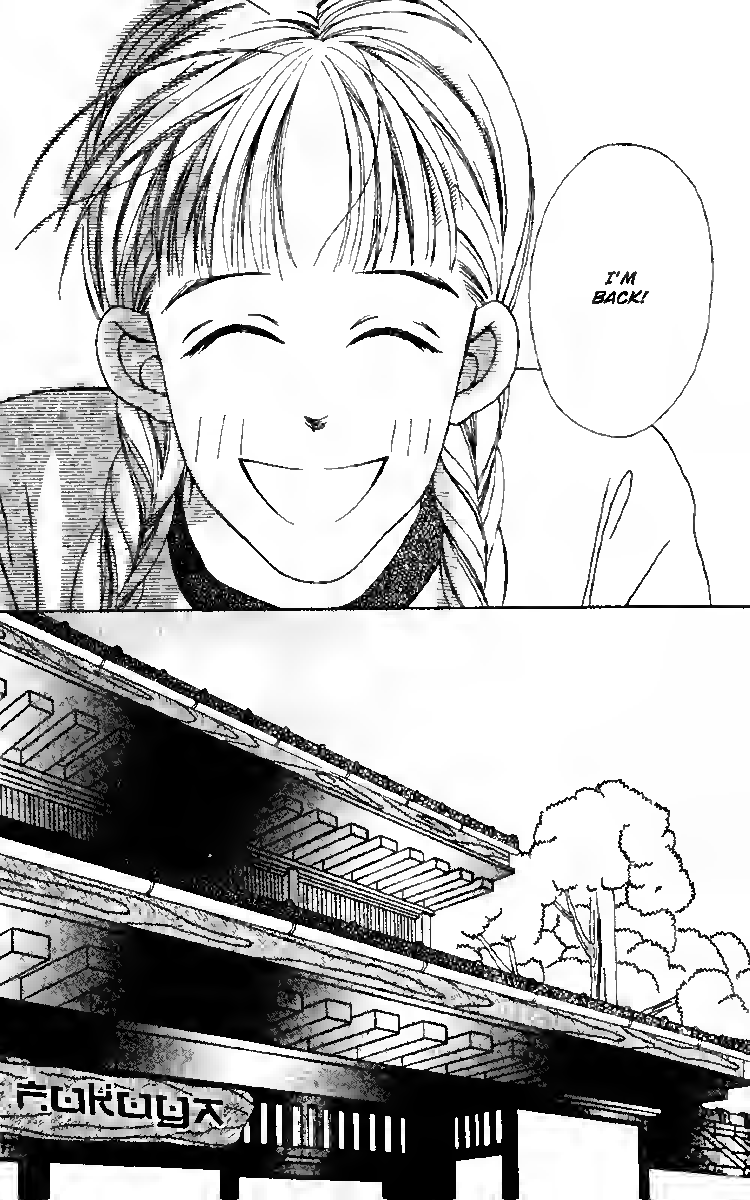

AWW
HOW CAN WE MAKE IT A BET IF WE BOTH AGREE?
I BET 10,000 YEN THAT SHE'LL BE BACK WITH A SMILE.
SHALL WE MAKE A BET?
POOR CHILD
I BET 5,000 YEN THAT SHE'LL COME BACK BAWLING
WHAT A KIND SISTER YOU ARE
EH?
HANA ISN'T LIKE YOU, ARARE. THAT GIRL HAS GOOD EYES.
THAT BOY.

And you kept us all on edge
Just saying thanks'?
WON'T RUN AWAY JUST BECAUSE OF THIS
SAYING 'THANKS' BEFORE HE LEFT WAS JUST ENOUGH TO WIN MY APPROVAL
HANA WILL DEFINITELY COME BACK SMILING.

IORI-KUN KNEW WHERE MY HOUSE WAS.
BESIDES,
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS SINCE EVEN BEFORE WE WERE IN THE SAME CLASS
I THINK THAT YOUR GRACEFUL NECK AND LIMBS ARE BEAUTIFUL. MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN ANYONE ELSE'S.




FUKUOKA
Which one?
¥10000
¥5000
¥5000


I'M BACK!
FUKUOKA

FUKUYADOU HONPO
By YUCHI Yayomi

Hiee, Arare, end Heee era the thrae sisters ef Kyote's eldest cenfectioeery shop, Fukuya. Although they eech heve differeet perseeelities, they ell teke prido le their shop. "Fukuyedou-honpe" volume 1 briegs you e teste of the eeclost cepital, Kyote, with e shrewd mother, sherp-toegued grandpe, eed e host ef othor cheracters whe bring lile to the graet city.

Scanslation Credits
Scan Cleaner goldhair
Translator Chihaya
Proof-reader Maverick
Typesetter goldhair
QCer elvisrulz

In the author's note, Yuchi-sensei mentioned the oldest confectionery shop in Kyoto having a history of 350 years. I believe she was referring to TORAYA's, one of the oldest makers of traditional confectionery in Japan. According to an archive, Toraya was already supplying confectionery to the Imperial Family in the 16th century as it still does today.

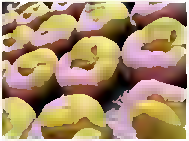
They have several branches in Japan and one in Paris. You can visit their website at

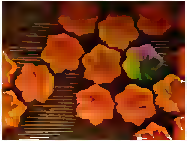
http://fukuu.toraya-group.co.jp/english/
http://fukuu.toraya-group.co.jp/paris/

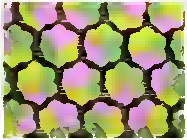
和菓子

【*wagashi*】

Wagashi is the term used for Japanese traditional confectionery in a whole & are often served with tea especially the types made of mochi red bean paste and fruits Wagashi is typically made from natural based (mainly plant) ingredients The names used for wagashi commonly fit a formula — a natural beauty and a word from ancient literature





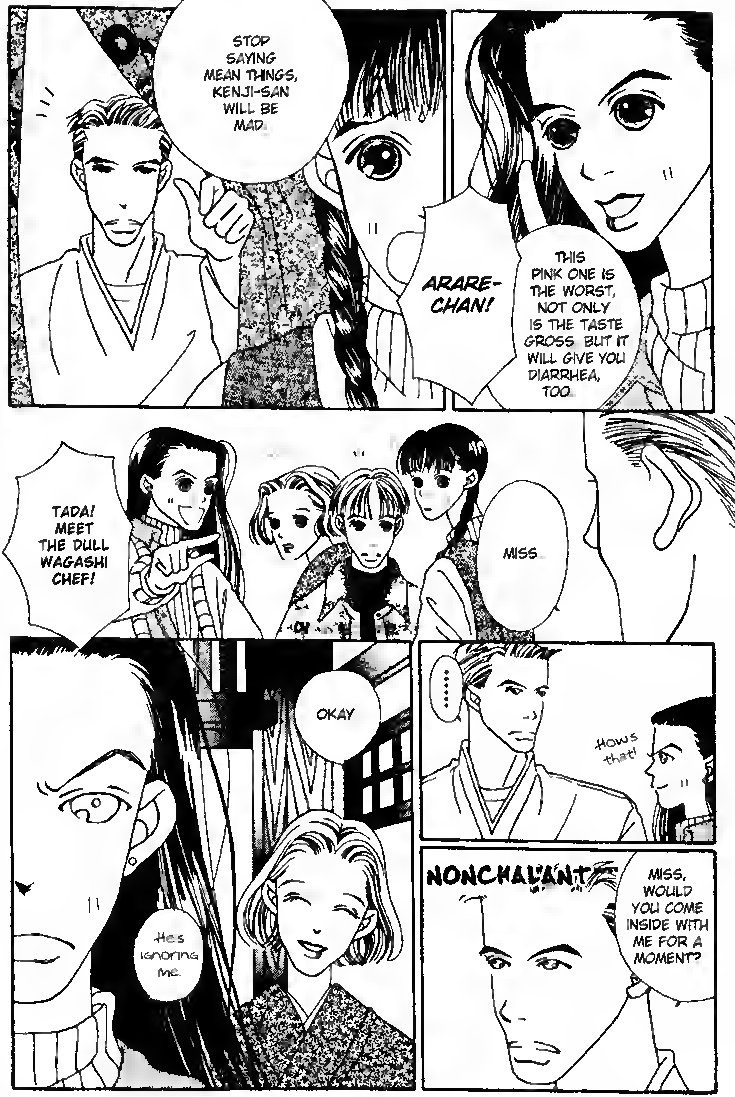


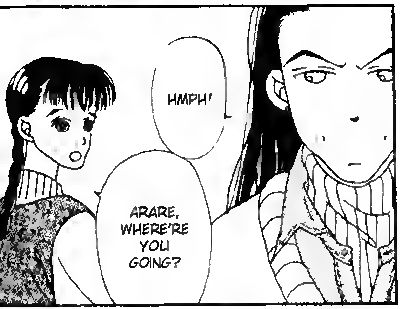
Credits: http://endoru.wordpress.com

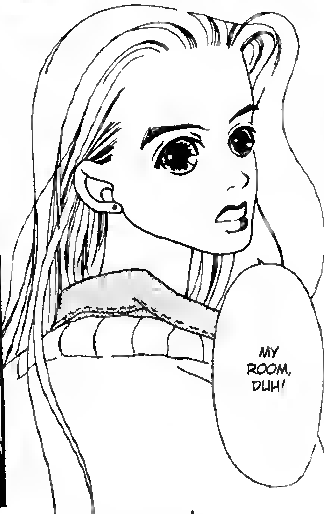
Fukuyadou Honpo

The Successor (2)

THIS ONE SUITS THIS SEASON BEST.
HMM
THIS PINK WAGASHI IS OUR BEST SELLER
I'LL TAKE IT THEN.
OKAY.
DON'T BOTHER. THE TASTELESS SWEETS MADE BY THAT DULL WAGASHI CHEF WILL ONLY GIVE YOU A STOMACHACHE.
ARARE
I SPEAK THE TRUTH. THE ONES SEI-OJISAN MAKES ARE MUCH BETTER.

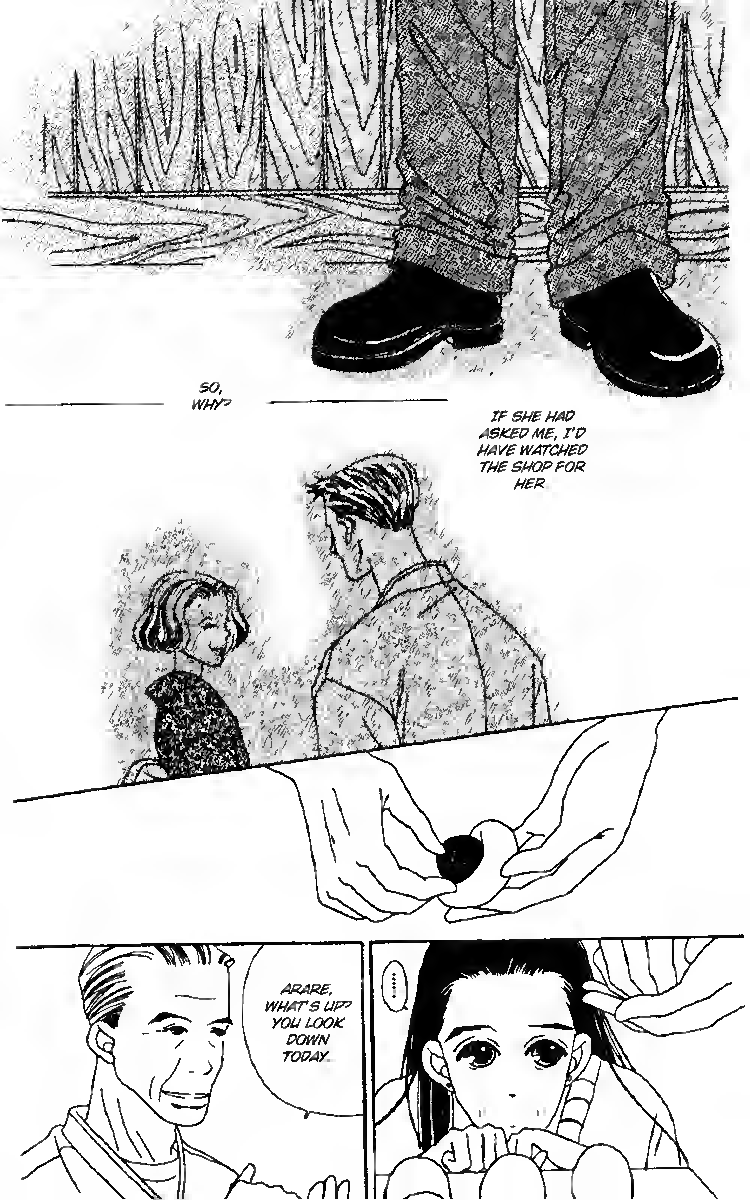

STOP SAYING MEAN THINGS, KENJI-SAN WILL BE MAD.
ARARE-CHAN!
THIS PINK ONE IS THE WORST, NOT ONLY IS THE TASTE GROSS BUT IT WILL GIVE YOU DIARRHEA, TOO.
TADA! MEET THE DULL WAGASHI CHEF!
MISS...
OKAY
He's ignoring me.
.....
How's that!
NONCHALANT
MISS, WOULD YOU COME INSIDE WITH ME FOR A MOMENT?

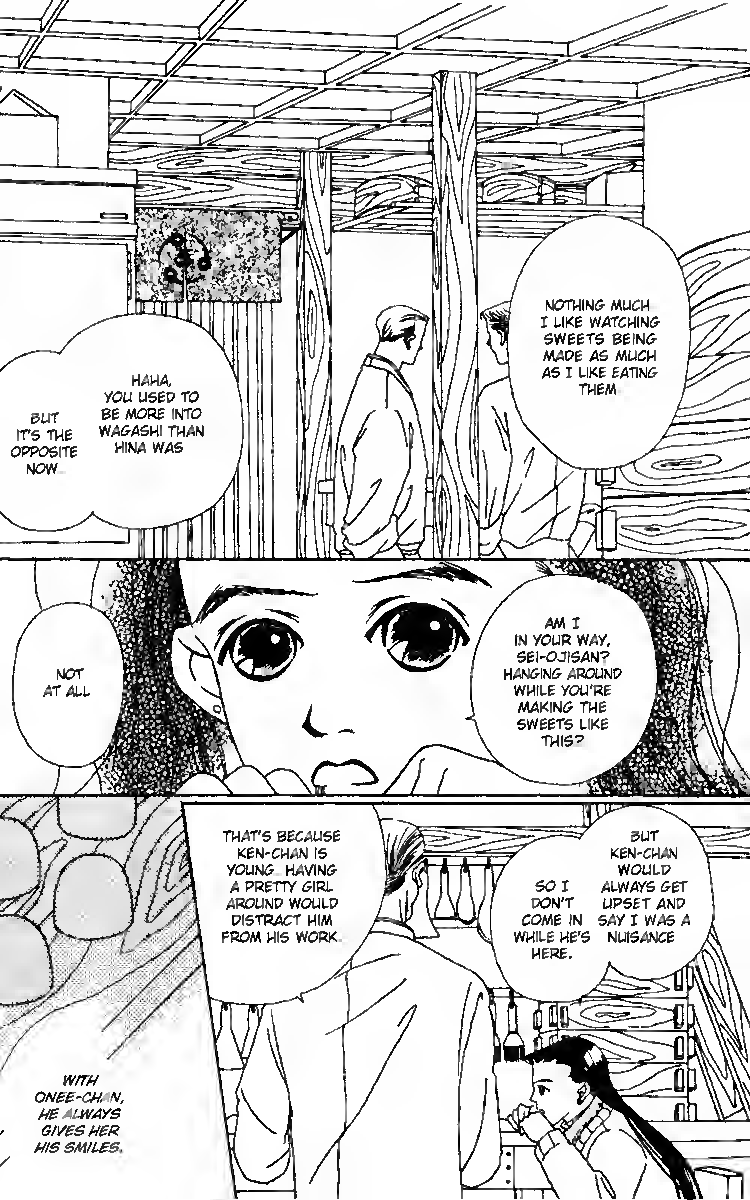


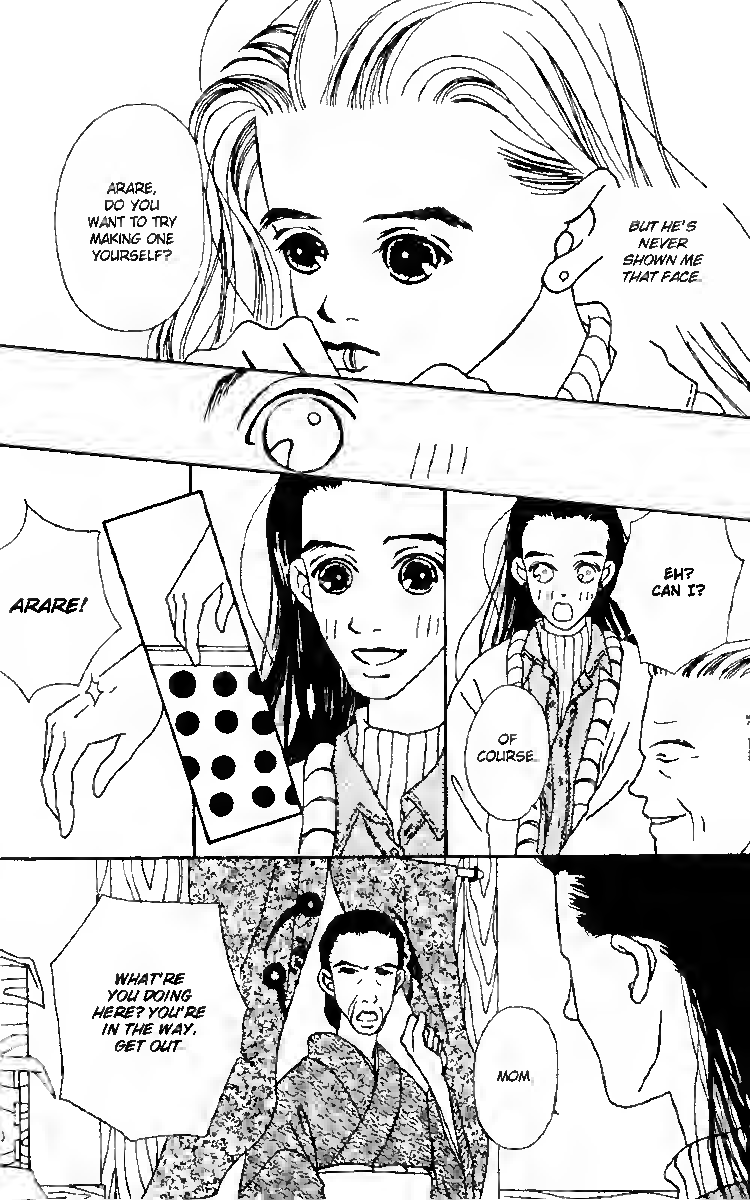


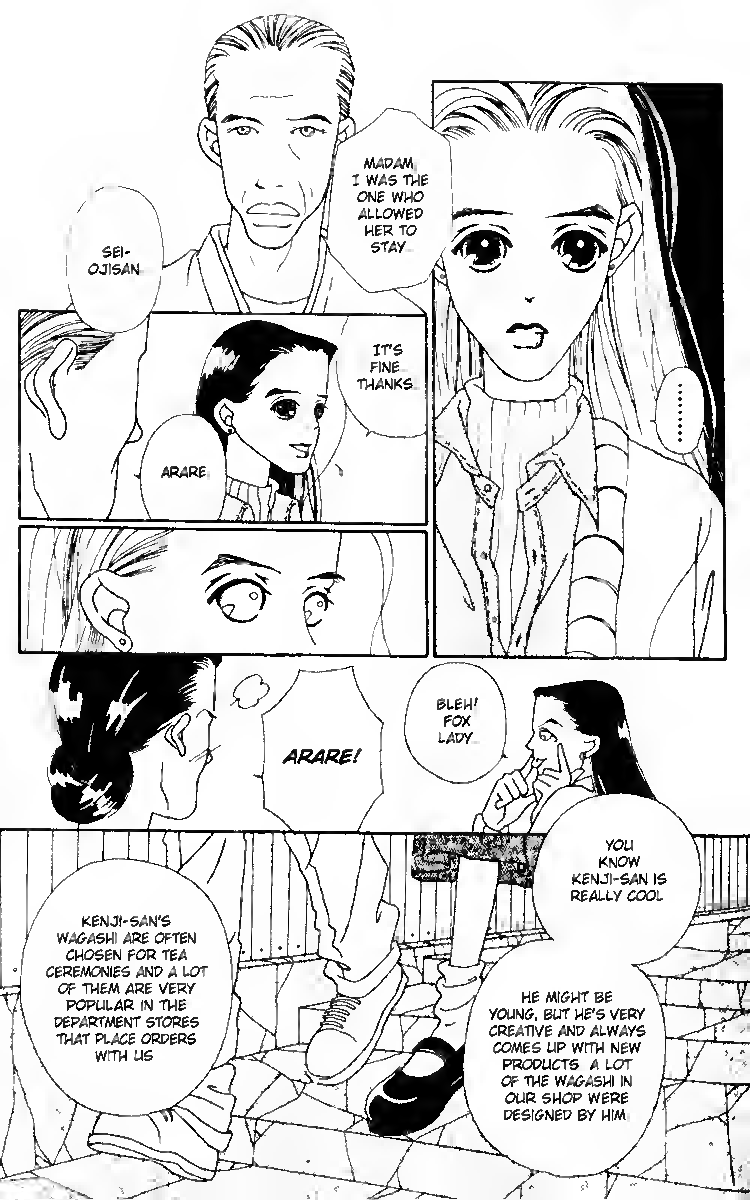
WingtipCafe.com

BUT I ALREADY FEEL MUCH BETTER THAN I DID THIS MORNING.
THE FEVER IS GONE TOO, I'M FINE NOW.
TOMORROW WILL BE A BUSY DAY. IT WOULD BE BETTER IF YOU TOOK IT EASY WHILE YOU CAN
ONEE-CHAN ISN'T FEELING WELL?
I SUPPOSE I'LL ASK ARARE TO WATCH OVER THE SHOP TODAY.
I'D BE HAPPY TO DO THAT.
THANK YOU SO MUCH, KEN-CHAN.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO FORMAL
WHAT'S THAT?


SO, WHY?
IF SHE HAD ASKED ME, I'D HAVE WATCHED THE SHOP FOR HER.
ARARE, WHAT'S UP? YOU LOOK DOWN TODAY.
.....


NOTHING MUCH. I LIKE WATCHING SWEETS BEING MADE AS MUCH AS I LIKE EATING THEM.
HAHA, YOU USED TO BE MORE INTO WAGASHI THAN HINA WAS
BUT IT'S THE OPPOSITE NOW.
AM I IN YOUR WAY, SEI-OJISAN? HANGING AROUND WHILE YOU'RE MAKING THE SWEETS LIKE THIS?
NOT AT ALL
BUT KEN-CHAN WOULD ALWAYS GET UPSET AND SAY I WAS A NUISANCE
SO I DON'T COME IN WHILE HE'S HERE.
THAT'S BECAUSE KEN-CHAN IS YOUNG. HAVING A PRETTY GIRL AROUND WOULD DISTRACT HIM FROM HIS WORK.
WITH ONEE-CHAN, HE ALWAYS GIVES HER HIS SMILES.


ARARE, DO YOU WANT TO TRY MAKING ONE YOURSELF?
BUT HE'S NEVER SHOWN ME THAT FACE.
ARARE!
EH? CAN I?
OF COURSE.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE? YOU'RE IN THE WAY. GET OUT.
MOM.


MADAM, I WAS THE ONE WHO ALLOWED HER TO STAY
SEI-OJISAN
IT'S FINE THANKS
ARARE
.....
ARARE!
BLEH! FOX LADY
YOU KNOW KENJI-SAN IS REALLY COOL
HE MIGHT BE YOUNG, BUT HE'S VERY CREATIVE AND ALWAYS COMES UP WITH NEW PRODUCTS. A LOT OF THE WAGASHI IN OUR SHOP WERE DESIGNED BY HIM.
KENJI-SAN'S WAGASHI ARE OFTEN CHOSEN FOR TEA CEREMONIES AND A LOT OF THEM ARE VERY POPULAR IN THE DEPARTMENT STORES THAT PLACE ORDERS WITH US

HIS HANDS HAVE SUCH A DELICATE TOUCH.
THAT PINK WAGASHI WON A NATIONAL CONTEST YOU KNOW
DO DEPARTMENT STORES CARRY FUKUYA'S WAGASHI TOO?
YES, MADE FRESH DAILY.
MOM WAS THE FIRST ONE TO TAKE THE LEAD
BEFORE, YOU COULDN'T FIND FUKUYA'S WAGASHI IN DEPARTMENT STORES.
AND WE NEVER ADVERTISED AS WE TOOK PRIDE IN BEING AN ELITE SHOP THAT HAD CARRIED ON FOR MANY GENERATIONS
AT A QUICK GLANCE FROM THE OUTSIDE, YOU WOULD NEVER HAVE GUESSED THAT IT WAS A CONFECTIONERY SHOP.
WE ONLY MADE A SMALL AMOUNT OF OUR FINEST WAGASHI FOR SPECIAL TEA CEREMONIES OR CUSTOM CATERED TO PRESTIGIOUS TEAHOUSES
RIGHT NOW THERE ARE ONLY A HANDFUL OF SUCH WAGASHI SHOPS LEFT IN KYOTO. LIKE HOW FUKUYA'S USED TO BE

.....
WHAT?
THE PRICE ISN'T TOO HIGH SO IT MAKES AN AFFORDABLE SOUVENIR, BUT EVEN SO, SHE NEVER SACRIFICES THE QUALITY
BUT MOM WANTED ORDINARY PEOPLE TO TASTE OUR WAGASHI TOO. THAT'S WHY OUR SHOP HAS BECOME HOW YOU SEE IT TODAY
FUKUYOSHI, CAN I CALL YOU BY YOUR GIVEN NAME?
UMM...
YES

I AM.
HANA, YOU MUST BE VERY PROUD OF THE SHOP.
TRADITIONAL JAPANESE CONFECTIONERY
HAS STRONG TIES WITH SEASONS.

TO SMELL THE SCENT OF FLOWERS, TO FEEL A CHILL WHEN THE SOUND OF RUNNING WATER CAN BE HEARD, TO ENJOY THE COLORFUL MAPLE LEAVES, TO TOUCH THE SOFTNESS OF MOUNTAIN SNOW - ONE SHALL TASTE THEM WITH EYES, TONGUE, AND HEART
THE WAGASHI WORLD IS BOTH WIDE AND DEEP
EACH WAGASHI IS PRESENTED ON THE SHELVES ACCORDING TO THE SEASONS SOME MIGHT EVEN BE ON SALE FOR ONE DAY DURING A SPECIAL FESTIVAL OR HOLIDAY

HINA-SAN
COMING OUT FOR A WALK?
HINOYAMA -SAN
MAY I CARRY THAT FOR YOU?
WE JUST RETURNED HOME FROM SHOPPING, AND YOU HINOYAMA-SAN?
MY, THANK YOU.
I WAS OUT FOR SOME FRESH AIR AND WAS HEADING BACK TO THE BANK NOW.

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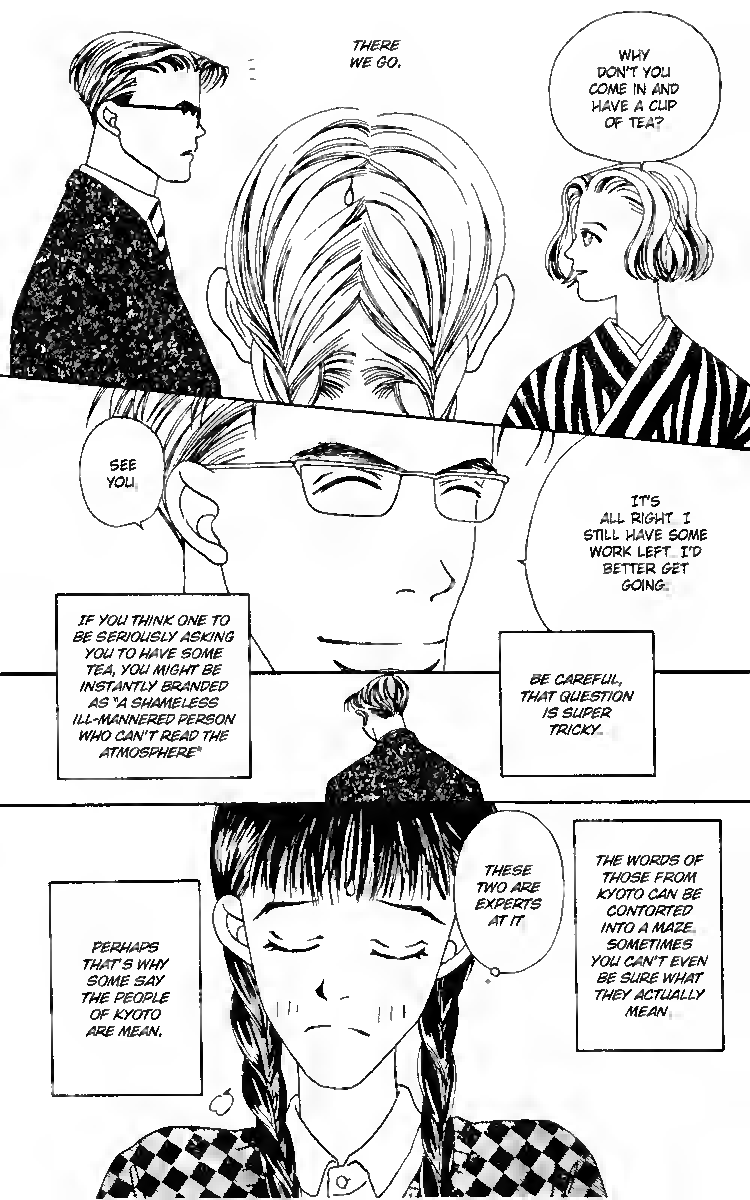
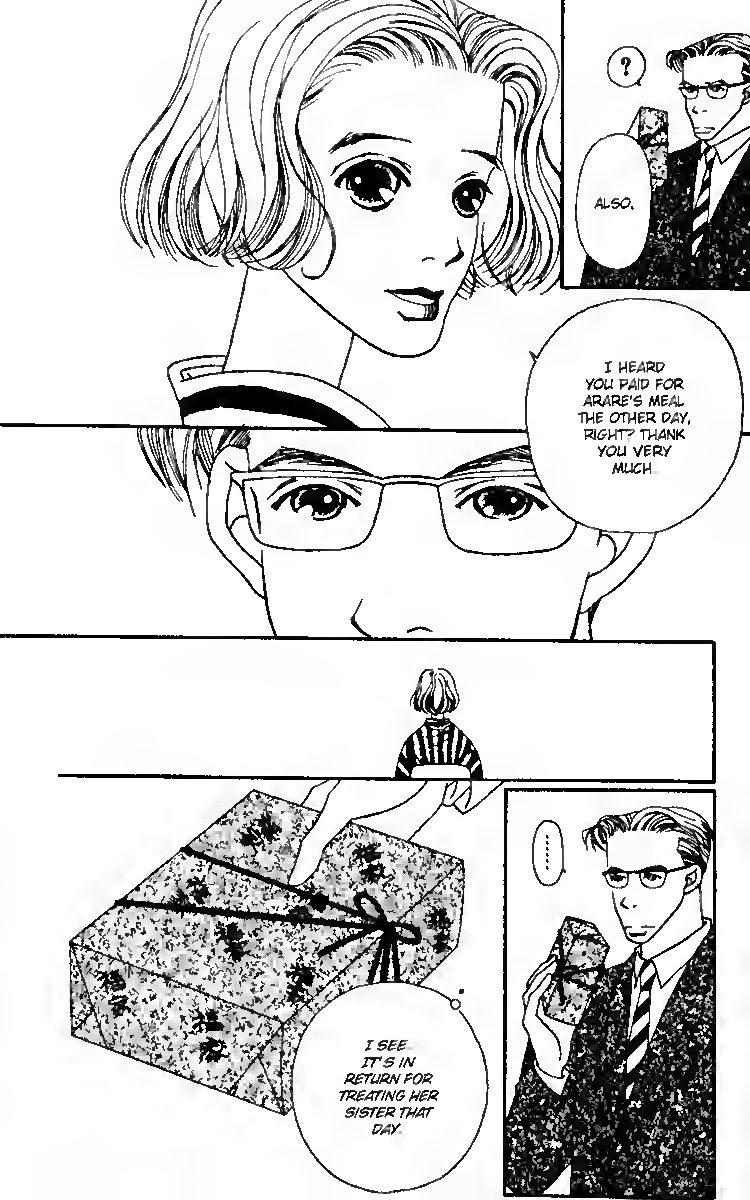
WALKS PAST
HANA, LET'S GO.
"THANK YOU."
IT'S THE MOST COMMON PHRASE YOU'LL HEAR WHEN YOU'RE IN KYOTO.

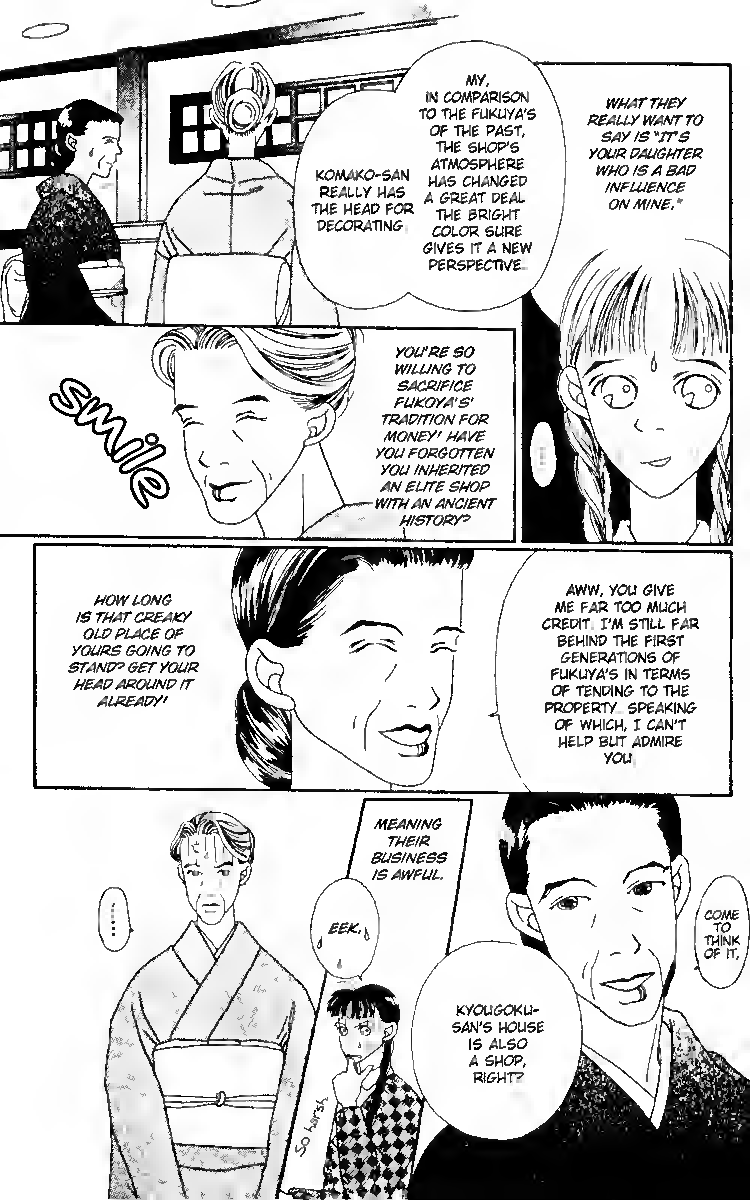
ONE MIGHT SMILE AND SAY "THANK YOU,"
BUT YOU CAN'T SIMPLY JUDGE IT AS ACCEPTANCE OR GIVING PERMISSION. KYOTO IS A PLACE WHERE THE LOCALS DISLIKE DIRECTNESS. "THANK YOU" CAN SOMETIMES EVEN MEAN REFUSAL.
TO MISINTERPRET IT AS ACCEPTANCE MIGHT TURN OUT TO BE A HUGE EMBARRASSMENT ON YOUR PART.
IS SOMETHING WRONG? HANA-SAN?
.....
NOTHING.
AS EXPECTED OF SOMEONE WHO WAS BORN AND RAISED IN KYOTO. HE DOESN'T LOOK AS IF HE LOST FACE AT ALL.
HINOYAMA -SAN.
BY THE WAY,


THERE WE GO.
WHY DON'T YOU COME IN AND HAVE A CUP OF TEA?
SEE YOU.
IT'S ALL RIGHT I STILL HAVE SOME WORK LEFT I'D BETTER GET GOING.
IF YOU THINK ONE TO BE SERIOUSLY ASKING YOU TO HAVE SOME TEA, YOU MIGHT BE INSTANTLY BRANDED AS "A SHAMELESS ILL-MANNERED PERSON WHO CAN'T READ THE ATMOSPHERE"
BE CAREFUL, THAT QUESTION IS SUPER TRICKY.
THESE TWO ARE EXPERTS AT IT
THE WORDS OF THOSE FROM KYOTO CAN BE CONTORTED INTO A MAZE. SOMETIMES YOU CAN'T EVEN BE SURE WHAT THEY ACTUALLY MEAN.
PERHAPS THAT'S WHY SOME SAY THE PEOPLE OF KYOTO ARE MEAN.

HINOYAMA-SAN...
...
HINA-SAN
I'M GLAD I CAUGHT UP WITH YOU. IF YOU DON'T MIND, WOULD YOU PLEASE ACCEPT THIS?
FOR ME?
YES. SHARE IT WITH YOUR CO-WORKERS IF YOU'D LIKE.
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME.


?
ALSO,
I HEARD YOU PAID FOR ARARE'S MEAL THE OTHER DAY, RIGHT? THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
I SEE. IT'S IN RETURN FOR TREATING HER SISTER THAT DAY.
.....

Can't she just say it directly?
SIGH.
OH, KYOUGOKU-SAN.
THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE TO SUPPORT US
I WAS THINKING OF PICKING UP SOME SWEETS FOR MY PARTY.
WHEN YOU THINK OF WAGASHI, YOU THINK OF FUKUYA'S
THE OBASAN FROM KYOUGOKU'S? THIS DOESN'T LOOK GOOD.
THERE THEY GO.
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING? IT'S MY DAUGHTER.
MY INSUFFERABLE DAUGHTER MASAMI, IS ALWAYS DRAGGING ARARE-CHAN OUT TO GO CLUBBING WITH HER


KOMAKO-SAN REALLY HAS THE HEAD FOR DECORATING
MY, IN COMPARISON TO THE FUKUYA'S OF THE PAST, THE SHOP'S ATMOSPHERE HAS CHANGED A GREAT DEAL THE BRIGHT COLOR SURE GIVES IT A NEW PERSPECTIVE.
WHAT THEY REALLY WANT TO SAY IS "IT'S YOUR DAUGHTER WHO IS A BAD INFLUENCE ON MINE."
smile
YOU'RE SO WILLING TO SACRIFICE FUKOYA'S' TRADITION FOR MONEY' HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN YOU INHERITED AN ELITE SHOP WITH AN ANCIENT HISTORY?
HOW LONG IS THAT CREAKY OLD PLACE OF YOURS GOING TO STAND? GET YOUR HEAD AROUND IT ALREADY!
AWW, YOU GIVE ME FAR TOO MUCH CREDIT. I'M STILL FAR BEHIND THE FIRST GENERATIONS OF FUKUYA'S IN TERMS OF TENDING TO THE PROPERTY. SPEAKING OF WHICH, I CAN'T HELP BUT ADMIRE YOU.
MEANING THEIR BUSINESS IS AWFUL.
EEK.
KYOUGOKU-SAN'S HOUSE IS ALSO A SHOP, RIGHT?
COME TO THINK OF IT,
.....
So Lush

HO HO HO HO
I'm outta here
ARARE IS OUT PLAYING AGAIN?
YES
GEEZ, THAT GIRL ONLY KNOWS HOW TO MAKE HER MOTHER UNHAPPY
BUT YOU WON IN THE END
BECAUSE OF ARARE, I HAD TO BEAR SUCH IRKSOME TAUNTS

SNEAKING OUT WITH THE SHOP'S MONEY,
MESSING AROUND WHILE WAGASHI IS BEING MADE,
.....
SHE HASN'T EVEN LOOKED FOR A JOB.
JUST BARHOPS AROUND AND COMES BACK AT DAWN
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH THAT CHILD
MOM DOESN'T KNOW THAT ARARE-CHAN PASSED THE TEST FOR A-COMPANY.
MOM..
WHAT IS IT?
DON'T YOU THINK THAT ARARE-CHAN HAS THINGS SHE WANTS TO DO TOO?

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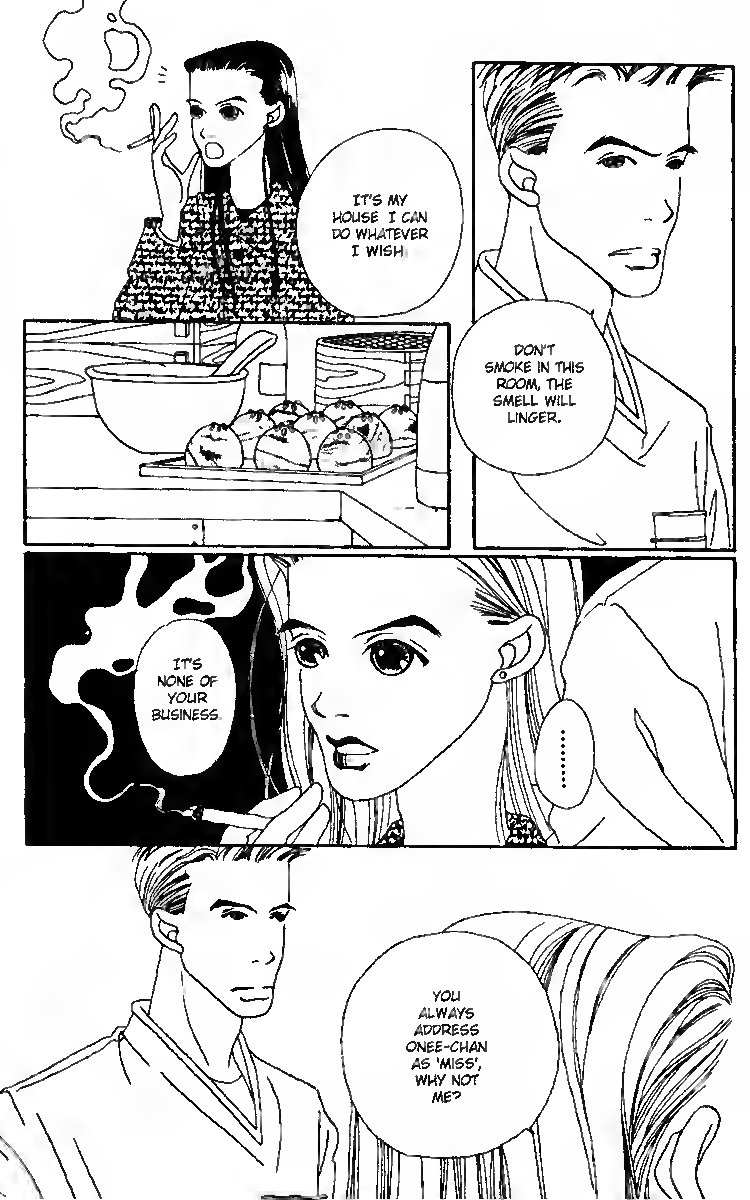
I HAVE HINA AND I'M CONTENT WITH THAT...
I DON'T WANT TO LISTEN ANYMORE...
WELL, ABOUT ARARE, JUST LET HER BE
AND THAT THERE ARE REASONS BEHIND HER BEHAVIOR?
WITH HER AROUND, WE DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE SHOP
SHE CAN TEND THE SHOP AND LIGHTEN MY BURDEN
KEN-CHAN IS A GOOD, TRUSTWORTHY MAN WHO ALWAYS TRIES HIS BEST FOR OUR SHOP
SOON I'LL HAVE HER MARRY KEN-CHAN AND TAKE OVER
THEN I CAN RETIRE IN PEACE...

MOM'S REQUEST
WOULD BE HARD TO REFUSE.
DO ONEE-CHAN AND KENJI-SAN KNOW ABOUT THIS?
I'LL TALK TO THEM LATER. BUT THOSE TWO GET ALONG WELL, DON'T THEY?
.....
I'M HOME.

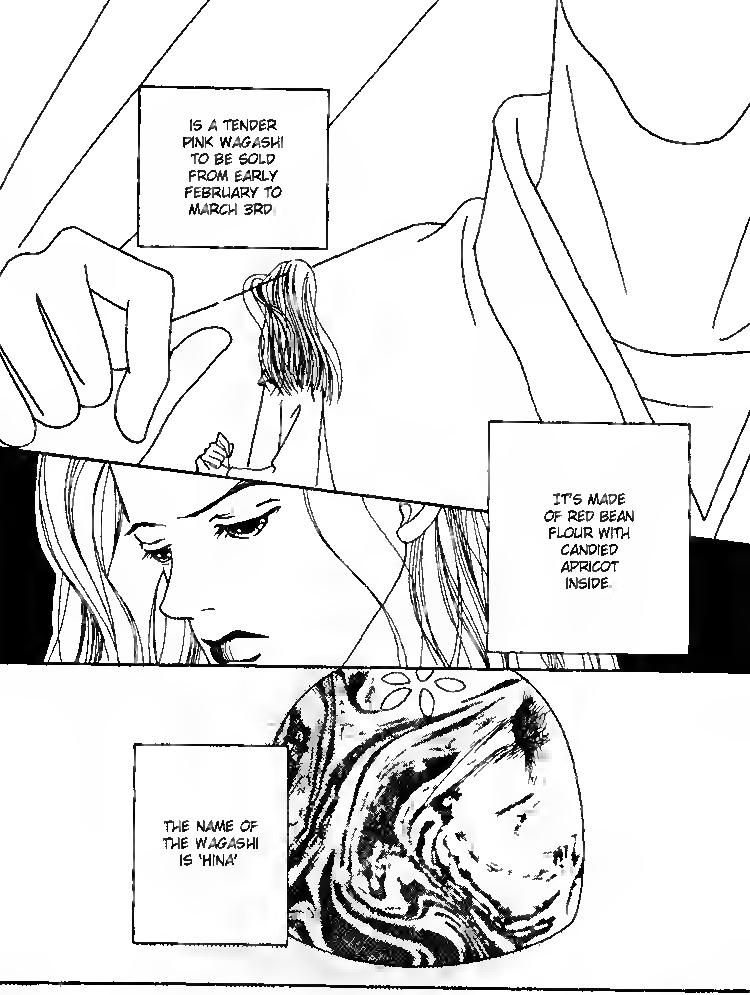
YOU'RE TRYING A NEW RECIPE AT THIS HOUR?
LET ME HAVE A TASTE.
ARARE
.....
AWFUL
YOU'RE COMING UP WITH SUCH CRAP
.....
BOTH THE COLOR AND THE SHAPE ARE AWFUL


IT'S MY HOUSE I CAN DO WHATEVER I WISH.
DON'T SMOKE IN THIS ROOM, THE SMELL WILL LINGER.
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
.....
YOU ALWAYS ADDRESS ONEE-CHAN AS 'MISS', WHY NOT ME?

DO YOU KNOW YOU'RE JUST AN ORDINARY EMPLOYEE!
HAVE YOU HEARD THE GOOD NEWS?
MOM PLANS TO PAIR YOU UP WITH ONEE-CHAN AND HAVE YOU TWO RUN FUKUYA'S
YOU'RE GOING TO INHERIT THE SHOP, AS THE 18TH GENERATION OF FUKUYA'S, AND THE LOVELY ONEE-CHAN. YOU MUST BE THRILLED.

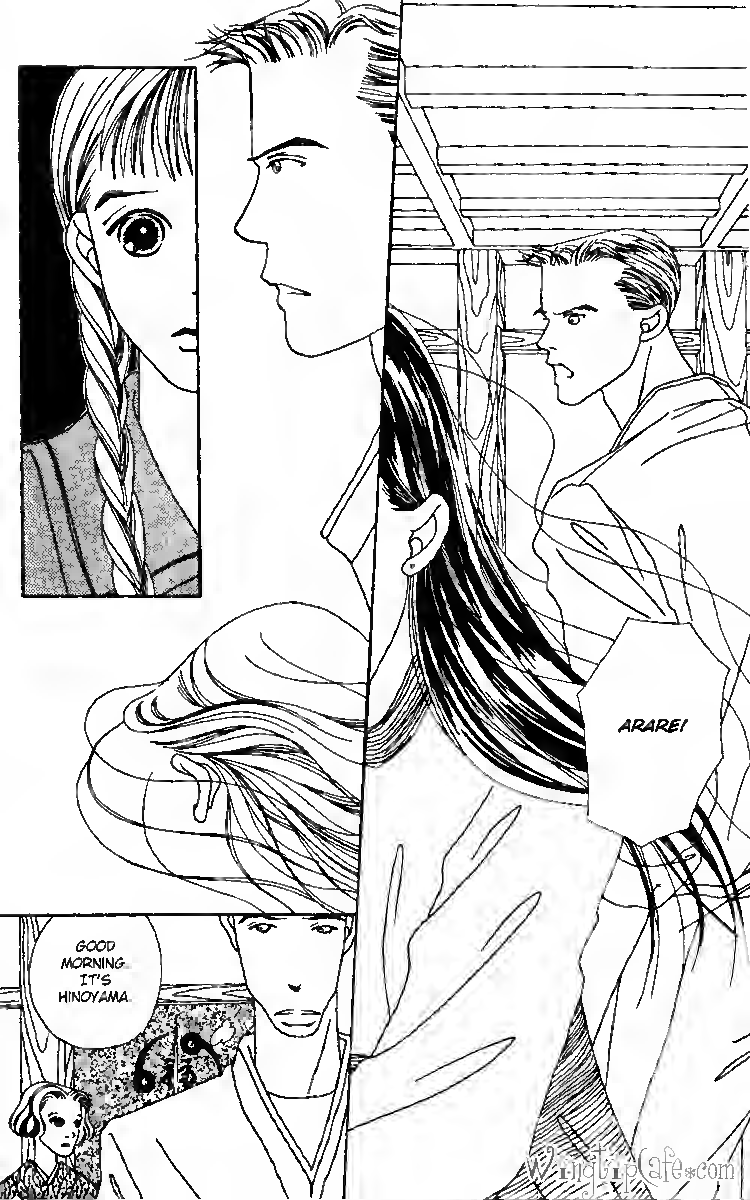
STOP BEING RIDICULOUS.
ARE YOU REALLY A DAUGHTER OF THIS SHOP?
.....

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAS GOTTEN INTO YOU, BUT STOP TAKING IT OUT ON OTHERS.
LEARN SOMETHING FROM YOUR SISTER.
ALL YOU DO IS DISAPPOINT PEOPLE.
ONE OF THE SWEETS KENJI-SAN CREATED


IS A TENDER PINK WAGASHI TO BE SOLD FROM EARLY FEBRUARY TO MARCH 3RD.
IT'S MADE OF RED BEAN FLOUR WITH CANDIED APRICOT INSIDE.
THE NAME OF THE WAGASHI IS 'HINA'

T/N: jouyou manjuu* = thin-skinned steamed bun
Very moist and fluffy because rice flour is used in place of wheat flour and grated yam is added
source: http://kokonuggetyumyum.blogspot.com/
KEN-CHAN, WOULD YOU PUT MORE JOUYOU MANJUU* ON THE DISPLAY PLEASE?
YES.
WHERE'S ARARE?
.....
ARARE? STILL IN BED, PERHAPS.
OH, RIGHT. KEN-CHAN.
THE WAGASHI WE DELIVERED TO OHASHI-SENSEI LAST TIME WERE SUPERB. SHE WOULDN'T STOP PRAISING US
IS THAT SO? I'M GLAD.
I THINK I'M GETTING A HANG OF THIS.
HA HA HA
THAT SENSEI IS QUITE A NITPICK, ISN'T SHE?

ARARE-CHAN, YOU WOKE UP SO EARLY TODAY, WHAT'S UP?
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR HAND? Did you get in a fight with someone already this morning?
I'M FINE.
ARARE.
LET ME SEE YOUR HAND
WHAT'S GOING ON?
snatch back



WeirdTeaCafe.com

GOOD MORNING DIDN'T YOU COLLECT THE MONEY YESTERDAY ALREADY?
CERTAINLY PLEASE COME IN
YES, BUT I HAVE SOMETHING TO DISCUSS WITH HINA-SAN THIS MORNING
MAY I HAVE A MOMENT OF YOUR TIME?
THE CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT IDEA AGAIN?
HERE
HOW ODD TO SEE YOU IN OUR SHOP ON A NON-COLLECTION DAY
WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE TODAY?
WELL...

I'D LIKE TO ASK HINA-SAN TO MARRY ME.
EH?
HUH?

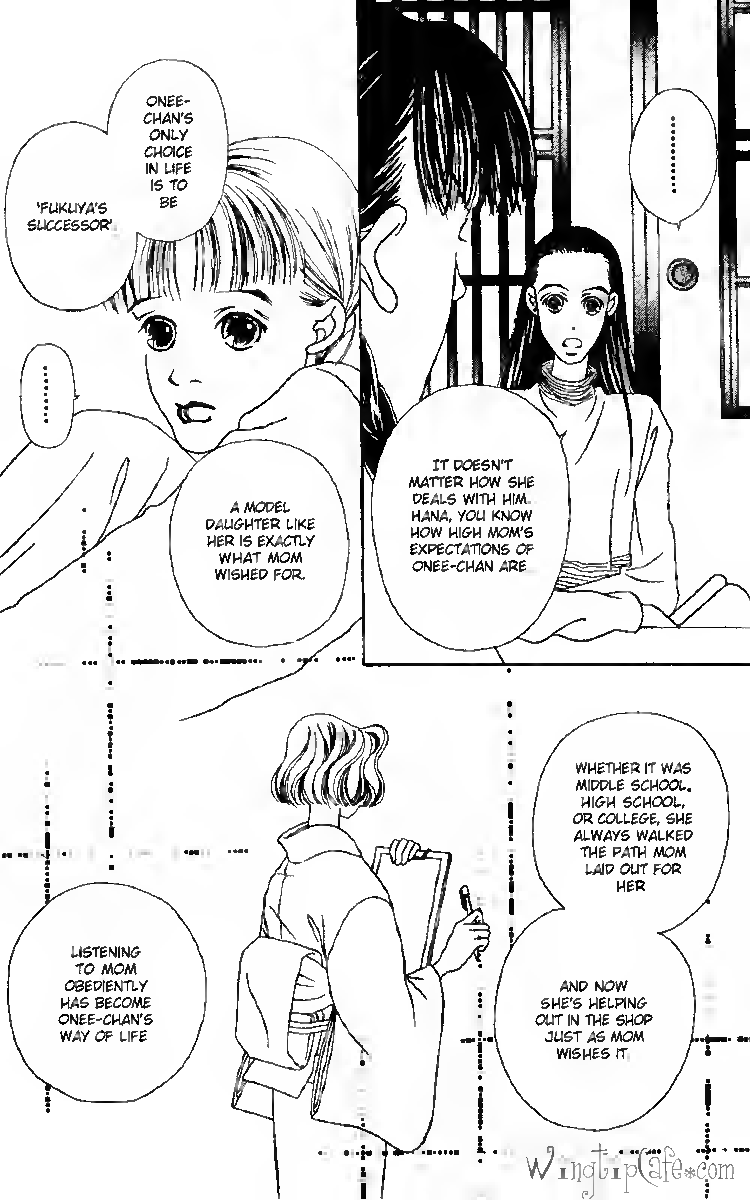
MARRIAGE
BUT AS YOU KNOW, I'M AN ONLY CHILD,
SO I CAN'T MARRY INTO YOUR FAMILY.
I'D LIKE TO ASK HINA-SAN TO MARRY INTO MINE.
NO WAY!

I. . SEE.
BUT I'M AFRAID THAT OUR FAMILY STATUS ISN'T ON PAR WITH YOURS
HE SPOKE AS IF HE WERE ASKING ONEE-CHAN TO OPEN A BANK ACCOUNT.
PROPOSING TO A WOMAN SO SUDDENLY DURING 3 MINUTES OF FREE TIME ON THE WAY TO WORK?!
IT'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT. I HAVE THE FEELING WE'LL GET ALONG JUST FINE.
THAT'S ALL I CAME FOR TODAY.

THE HINOYAMA-SAN WHO ALWAYS TALKS IN CIRCLES
.....
NOW COULDN'T HAVE SPOKEN ANY CLEARER.
THIS TIME, ONEE-CHAN DIDN'T UTTER A SINGLE WORD OF "THANK YOU."

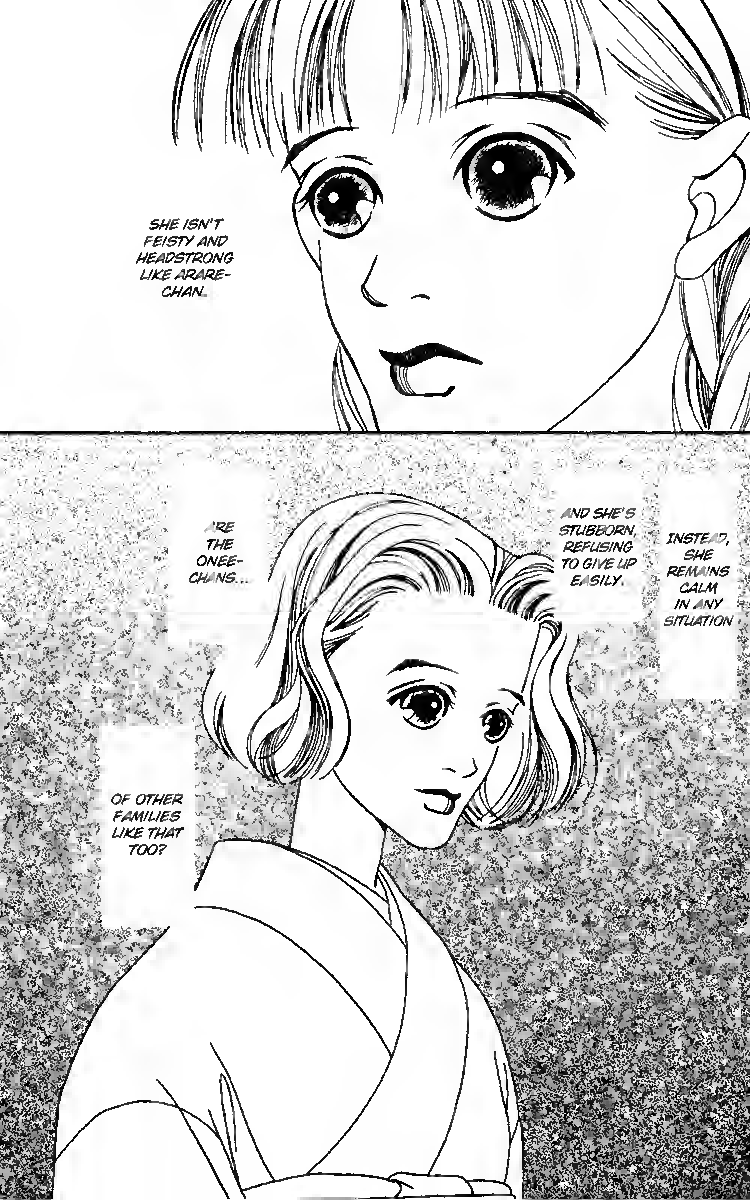
He proposed ?!
.....
YEAH.
WHAT? HOW IN THE WORLD IS THERE SOMETHING GOING ON BETWEEN THOSE TWO?
THAT'S WHAT I WAS THINKING, SO I ASKED ONEE-CHAN ...
OH, HINOYAMA-SAN?
WELL, WE HAD CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THE CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT IDEA MANY TIMES AND_

WE'VE ALSO TALKED ABOUT WEATHER MANY TIMES TOO.
WHAT ELSE DID YOU TWO TALK ABOUT?
You can tell Hana you know.
AND?
SHE SAID ...
.....
WHAT? JUST THAT AND HE ASKED HER TO BE HIS WIFE?
AND WHAT ABOUT KENJI-SAN..?
HOW IS ONEE-CHAN
GOING TO DEAL WITH HINOYAMA-SAN...
There must be some-thing behind this
That Hinoyama is creepier than I thought
WHAT THE HECK!


ONEE-CHAN'S ONLY CHOICE IN LIFE IS TO BE 'FUKUYA'S SUCCESSOR'
.....
A MODEL DAUGHTER LIKE HER IS EXACTLY WHAT MOM WISHED FOR.
IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW SHE DEALS WITH HIM. HANA, YOU KNOW HOW HIGH MOM'S EXPECTATIONS OF ONEE-CHAN ARE
WHETHER IT WAS MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL, OR COLLEGE, SHE ALWAYS WALKED THE PATH MOM LAID OUT FOR HER
AND NOW SHE'S HELPING OUT IN THE SHOP JUST AS MOM WISHES IT.
LISTENING TO MOM OBEDIENTLY HAS BECOME ONEE-CHAN'S WAY OF LIFE
WingtipPlate.com

IS IT REALLY LIKE THAT?
THE COMPLETE OPPOSITE OF ME
SHE'LL CONTINUE LIVING THE LIFE MOM MADE FOR HER WITHOUT MAKING HER OWN CHOICES
ON THE SURFACE IT MIGHT LOOK LIKE ONEE-CHAN SHE IS WILLING TO DO ANYTHING SHE'S TOLD,
BUT I KNOW THAT'S NOT THE REAL HER.

BACK WHEN ONEE-CHAN HAD JUST GRADUATED FROM THE COLLEGE
IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I SAW HER DOING ANYTHING LIKE THAT


SHE ISN'T FEISTY AND HEADSTRONG LIKE ARARE-CHAN.
INSTEAD, SHE REMAINS CALM IN ANY SITUATION
AND SHE'S STUBBORN, REFUSING TO GIVE UP EASILY.
'RE THE ONEE-CHANS...
OF OTHER FAMILIES LIKE THAT TOO?

SHE MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO GO TO THE SCHOOL SHE CHOSE OR WORK AT THE JOB SHE LIKED, BUT SHE HAS NEVER COMPLAINED.
AND DOES WHAT MOM TELLS HER TO WITHOUT SAYING A WORD
SHE ALWAYS BEARS WITH IT

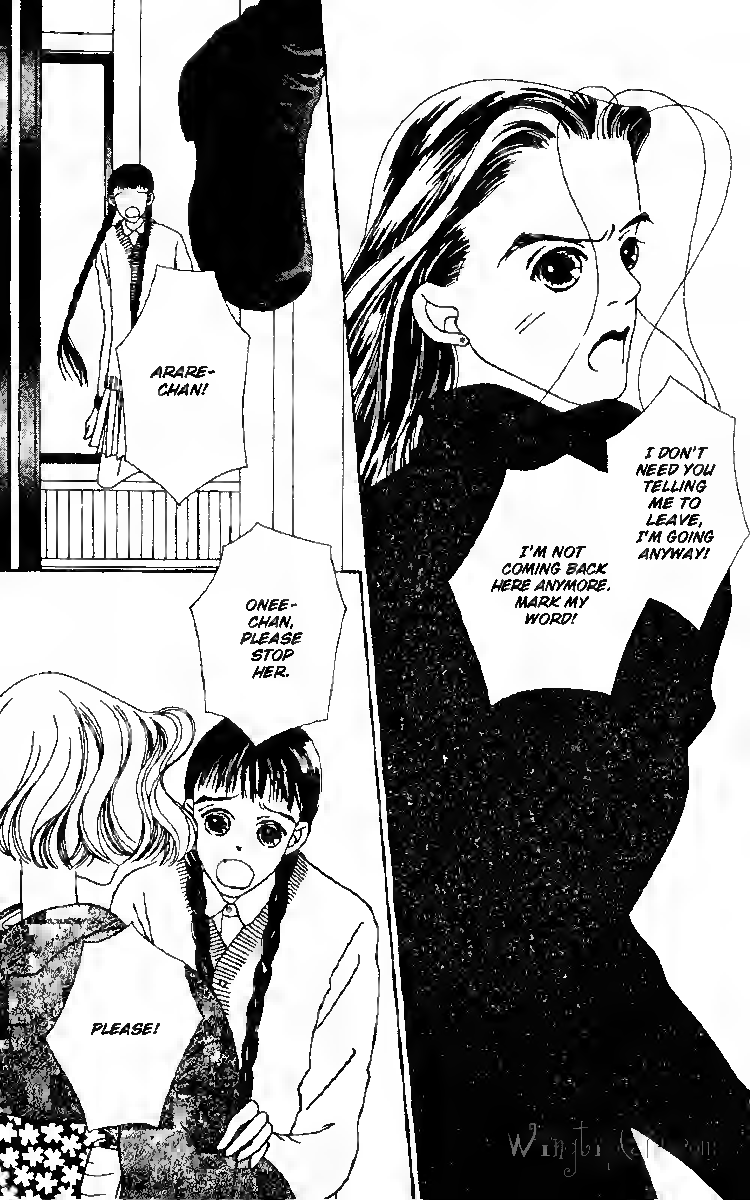
.....
ZZZ
I'LL PRETEND I DIDN'T SEE HER
PU PU PU
CAN'T SHE PICK A BETTER PLACE TO SLEEP?
BUT FOR BETTER OR WORSE, SHE'S HINA-SAN'S SISTER.
.....

SISTER.
Sometimes I'm not so sure
yum yum
I can't doubt no MOOOORE
.....
HELLO.
slide
UGH...
IT'S HINOYAMA
OH, HINOYAMA-SAN?

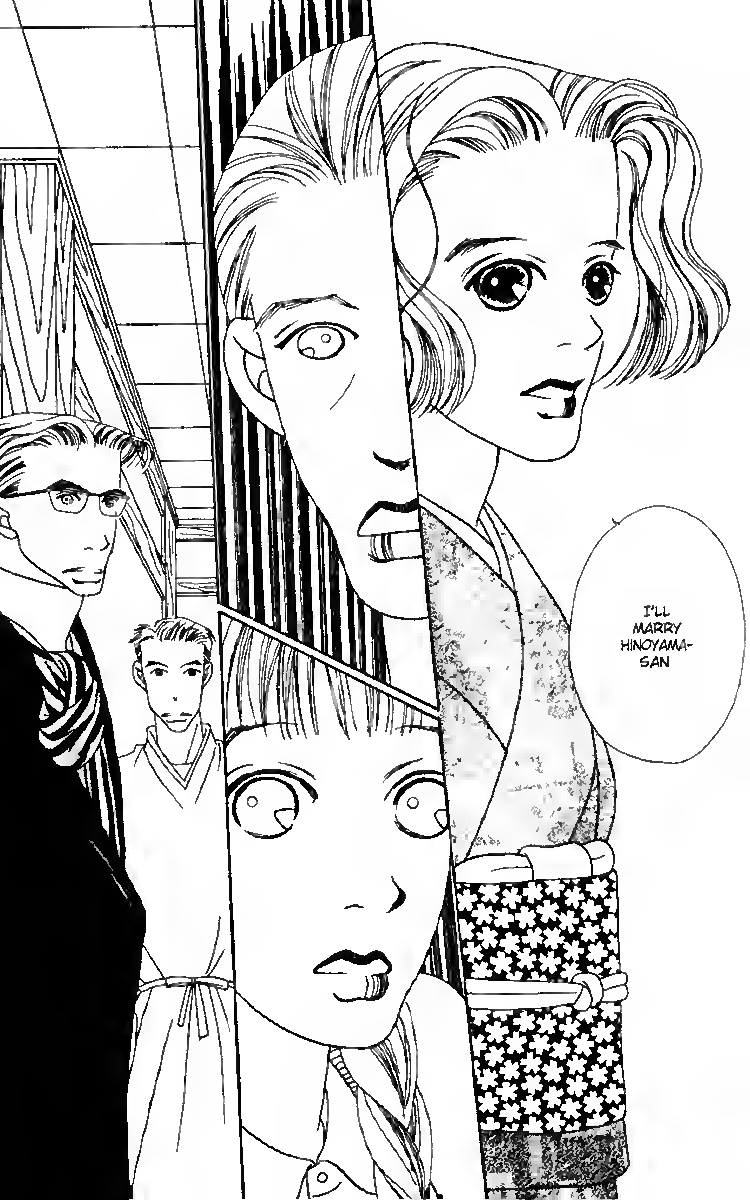
LET ME GO.
I SAW ARARE-SAN SLEEPING OUTSIDE
I BROUGHT HER IT
ARARE!
I WAS GONNA GO HOME BY MYSELF AFTER I SOBERED UP.
FUSSY! CAN'T YOU JUST LEAVE ME ALONE?
WHY IS EVERYONE LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?

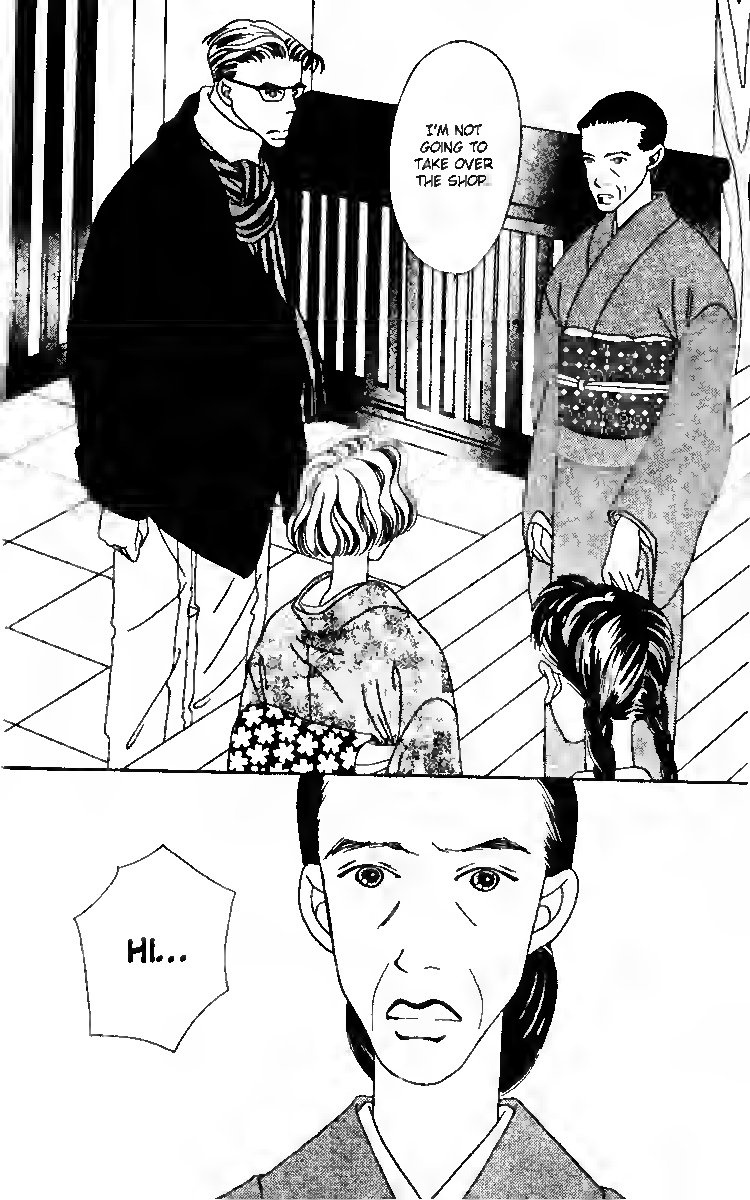
IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, SPIT IT OUT.
STOP MAKING THAT FACE I'M SICK OF IT
AND IT'S ABOUT TIME THIS STUPID OLD SHOP CLOSED DOWN FOR GOOD.
IT CAN GO OUT OF BUSINESS FOR ALL I CARE.
ARARE!
STOP BEING AN IDIOT! IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU THAT OUR SHOP IS DISGRACED.

IF YOU HATE THIS SHOP SO MUCH, THEN LEAVE!
HANA AND HINA ARE ENOUGH AROUND HERE. GET OUT AND DO WHATEVER YOU WISH.
WHY DOES EVERYTHING HAVE TO BE ABOUT HINA, HINA?!
ARARE-CHAN.

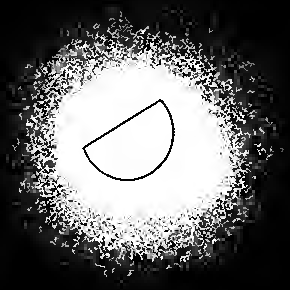

ARARE-CHAN!
I DON'T NEED YOU TELLING ME TO LEAVE, I'M GOING ANYWAY!
I'M NOT COMING BACK HERE ANYMORE, MARK MY WORD!
ONEE-CHAN, PLEASE STOP HER.
PLEASE!

ONEE-CHAN!
HURRY!
MOM...
I'VE DECIDED...

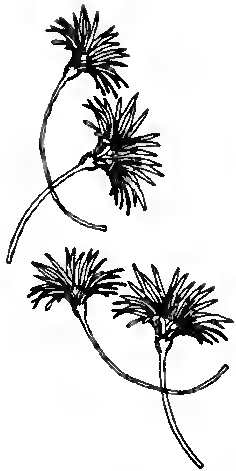

I'LL MARRY HINOYAMA-SAN


I'M NOT GOING TO TAKE OVER THE SHOP...
HI...

HINA!
ONEE-CHAN...
OH GOD...
DEAR GOD...



WHAT WILL BECOME OF FUKUYA'S?



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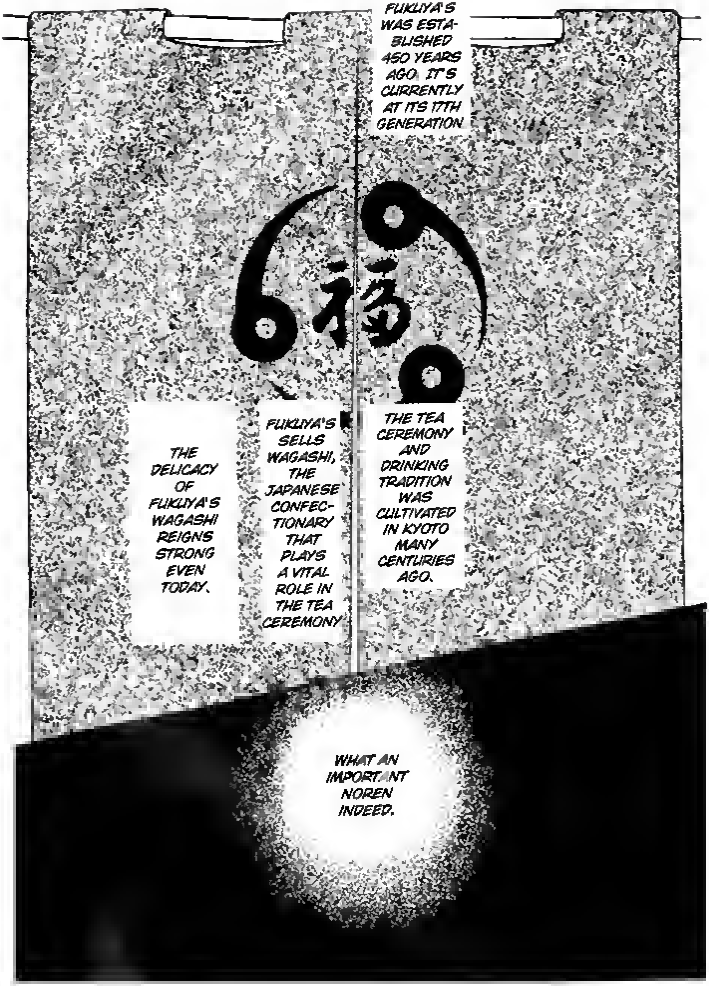
Yayoi


FUKUYA'S WAS ESTABLISHED 450 YEARS AGO. IT'S CURRENTLY AT ITS 17TH GENERATION.
福
THE DELICACY OF FUKUYA'S WAGASHI REIGNS STRONG EVEN TODAY.
FUKUYA'S SELLS WAGASHI, THE JAPANESE CONFECTIONARY THAT PLAYS A VITAL ROLE IN THE TEA CEREMONY.
THE TEA CEREMONY AND DRINKING TRADITION WAS CULTIVATED IN KYOTO MANY CENTURIES AGO.
WHAT AN IMPORTANT NOREN INDEED.

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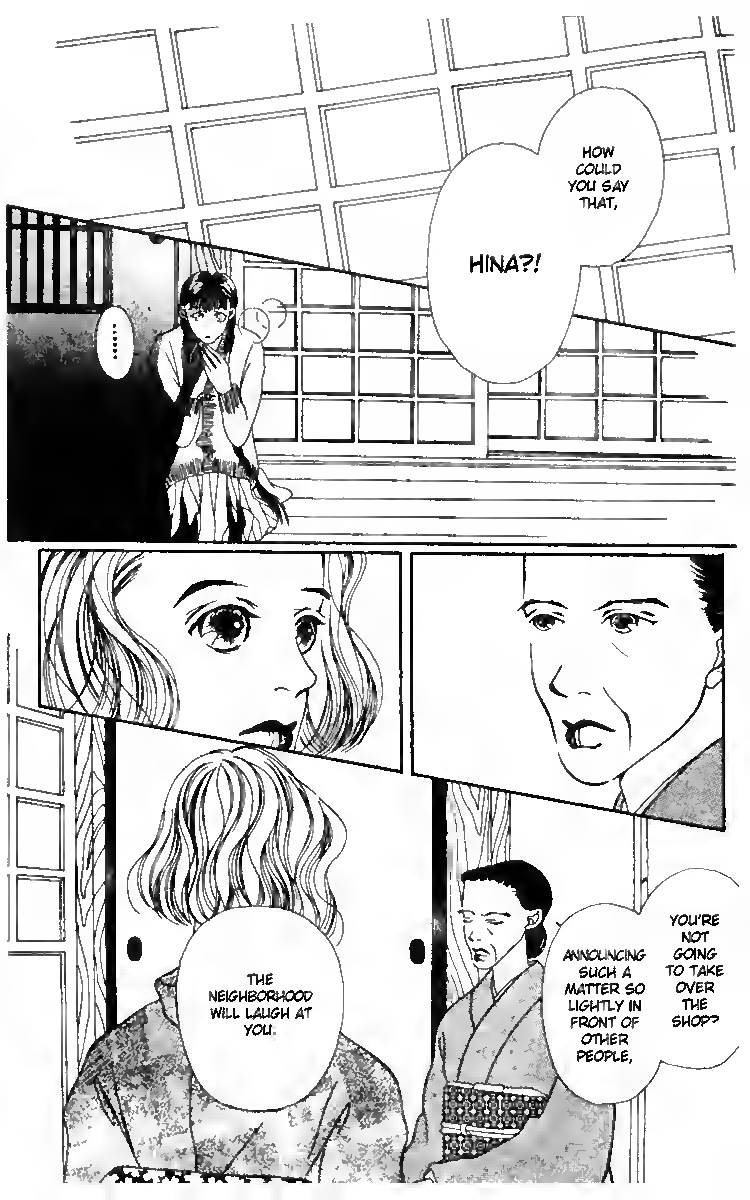
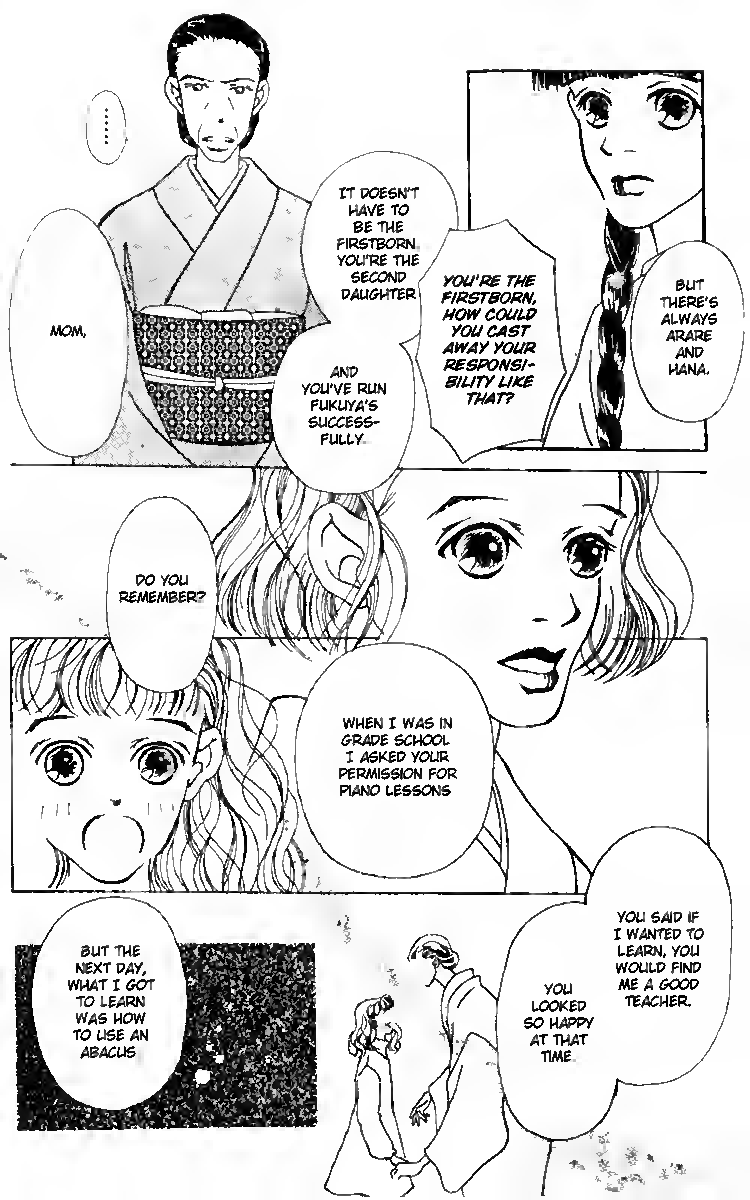
I'LL LOOK AROUND THE PARK
HAVING DRANK THAT MUCH,
SHE CAN'T HAVE GONE FAR
THEN I'LL SEARCH DOWN AT PONTOCHOU*,
SHE SEEMS TO LOVE HANGING OUT THERE
SORRY FOR TROUBLING YOU
T/N pontochou* – a traditional night life district in Kyoto
FROM NOW ON.
DON'T WORRY WE'LL BE SEEING A LOT OF EACH OTHER

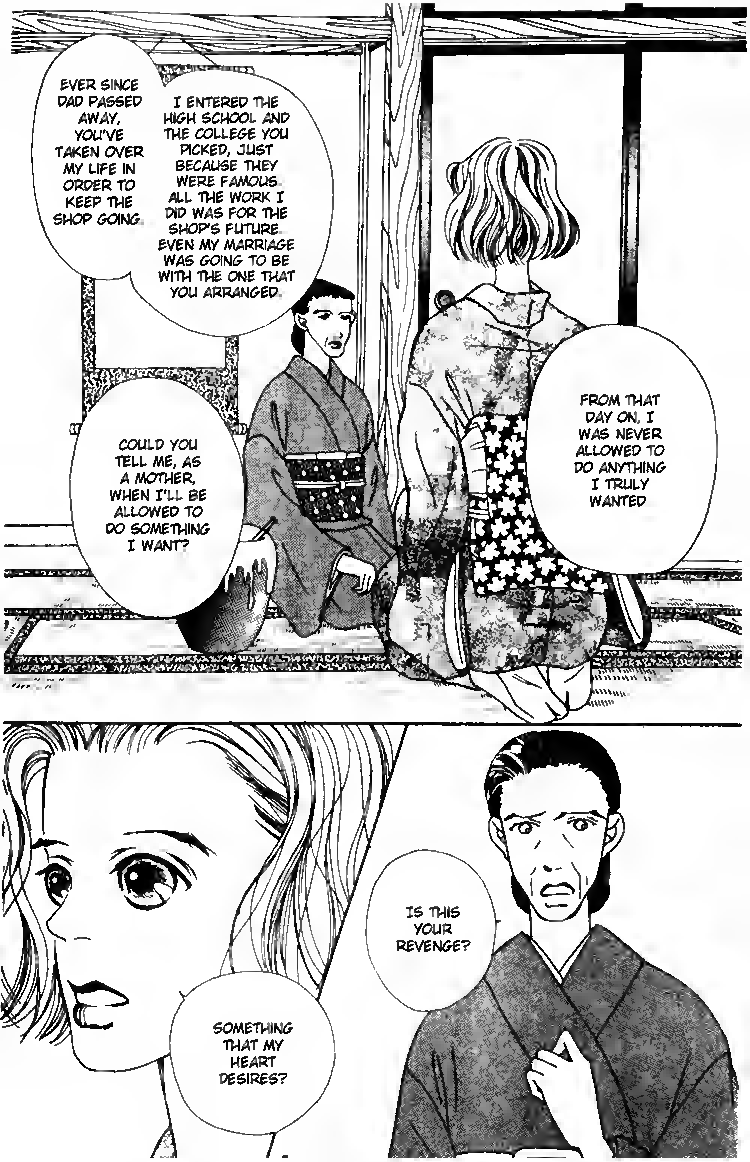
SNOW?
EVEN THOUGH IT'S ALREADY MARCH.
I'LL MARRY HINOYAMA SAN.
I DIDN'T THINK SHE WOULD ACTUALLY SAY YES.
HINA-SAN IS A STRANGE WOMAN INDEED.
Now im getting worried
Definitely not your average woman.


HOW COULD YOU SAY THAT,
HINA?!
.....
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TAKE OVER THE SHOP?
ANNOUNCING SUCH A MATTER SO LIGHTLY IN FRONT OF OTHER PEOPLE,
THE NEIGHBORHOOD WILL LAUGH AT YOU.

NO, MOM...
THINK BEFORE YOU SPEAK.
BLURTING IT OUT LIKE THAT IN FRONT OF HIM, HOW ARE WE GOING TO LOOK HIM IN THE FACE FROM NOW ON?
AND ABOUT MARRYING HINOYAMA SAN TOO
ONEE-CHAN MUST HAVE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED IT BEFORE SAYING IT OUT LOUD.
IT NEVER OCCURRED TO ME THAT YOU COULD BE SO RASH. I'M SO ASHAMED.
BUT DID SHE REALLY MEAN WHAT SHE SAID?
MOM.

WHA-
LET ME SAY IT ONE MORE TIME. I'M NOT GOING TO TAKE OVER THE SHOP.
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU CAME BACK TO HELP OUT RIGHT AFTER HAVING GRADUATED AND YOU UNDERSTAND THE BUSINESS REALLY WELL.
NOW YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT YOU WANT TO THROW THAT ALL AWAY?
ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE US TAKE DOWN THE NOREN IN THE 17TH GENERATION? MY GENERATION?
WHAT WOULD BECOME OF FUKUYA'S IF YOU LEFT US?


.....
MOM,
IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THE FIRSTBORN. YOU'RE THE SECOND DAUGHTER
AND YOU'VE RUN FUKUYA'S SUCCESS-FULLY.
YOU'RE THE FIRSTBORN, HOW COULD YOU CAST AWAY YOUR RESPONSI-BILITY LIKE THAT?
BUT THERE'S ALWAYS ARARE AND HANA.
DO YOU REMEMBER?
WHEN I WAS IN GRADE SCHOOL I ASKED YOUR PERMISSION FOR PIANO LESSONS
BUT THE NEXT DAY, WHAT I GOT TO LEARN WAS HOW TO USE AN ABACUS
YOU LOOKED SO HAPPY AT THAT TIME.
YOU SAID IF I WANTED TO LEARN, YOU WOULD FIND ME A GOOD TEACHER.


EVER SINCE DAD PASSED AWAY, YOU'VE TAKEN OVER MY LIFE IN ORDER TO KEEP THE SHOP GOING.
I ENTERED THE HIGH SCHOOL AND THE COLLEGE YOU PICKED, JUST BECAUSE THEY WERE FAMOUS. ALL THE WORK I DID WAS FOR THE SHOP'S FUTURE. EVEN MY MARRIAGE WAS GOING TO BE WITH THE ONE THAT YOU ARRANGED.
FROM THAT DAY ON, I WAS NEVER ALLOWED TO DO ANYTHING I TRULY WANTED
COULD YOU TELL ME, AS A MOTHER, WHEN I'LL BE ALLOWED TO DO SOMETHING I WANT?
IS THIS YOUR REVENGE?
SOMETHING THAT MY HEART DESIRES?

IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH REVENGE OR PRIDE.
BUT THIS TIME, IT'S JUST MY DECISION AND NOT YOURS.
UP UNTIL NOW I'VE NEVER TRULY RESISTED YOUR ORDERS.
BUT THIS TIME IT'S DIFFERENT,
I'M SERIOUS
AND WILL DIG MY FEET INTO THE GROUND FOR ALL IT'S WORTH.

I'VE DECIDED
TO MARRY OUT OF THIS FAMILY.
MOM...
I'M SORRY.
THAT WAS HOW IT ENDED.
MOM DIDN'T SAY A WORD.

ONEE-CHAN IS THE TYPE OF PERSON WHO ONCE HER MIND IS SET ON SOMETHING WILL DEFINITELY FOLLOW IT THROUGH.
IF SHE SET HER MIND ON SOMETHING, TO CHANGE HER HEART IS HARDER THAN MOVING A MOUNTAIN. MOM KNOWS ABOUT HER STUBBORNNESS BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE
RIGHT... I CAN CRASH AT MUSUMI'S HOUSE.
ONEE-CHAN HAS LAID DOWN HER LAST CARD. I WONDER IF SHE'LL WIN.
DAMN IT.
I would have stayed if I didn't wanna leave the house
HANA, SILLY GIRL WHY DIDN'T YOU STOP ME?
GOSH, I SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST BROUGHT A JACKET

DID ONEE-CHAN ASK YOU TO COME LOOKING FOR ME?
YOU'LL DO ANYTHING SHE WANTS, WON'T YOU?
NOBODY ASKED ME ANYTHING
YOUR FAMILY IS IN BIGGER TROUBLE THAN YOU THINK
MISS HINA HAS AGREED TO MARRY HINOYAMA-SAN.
SHE'S DISCUSSING THE SHOP'S FUTURE WITH MADAM AT THE MOMENT.
MARRY HINOYAMA-SAN?
WHAT IS SHE THINKING?
WHAT WILL BECOME OF OUR SHOP?

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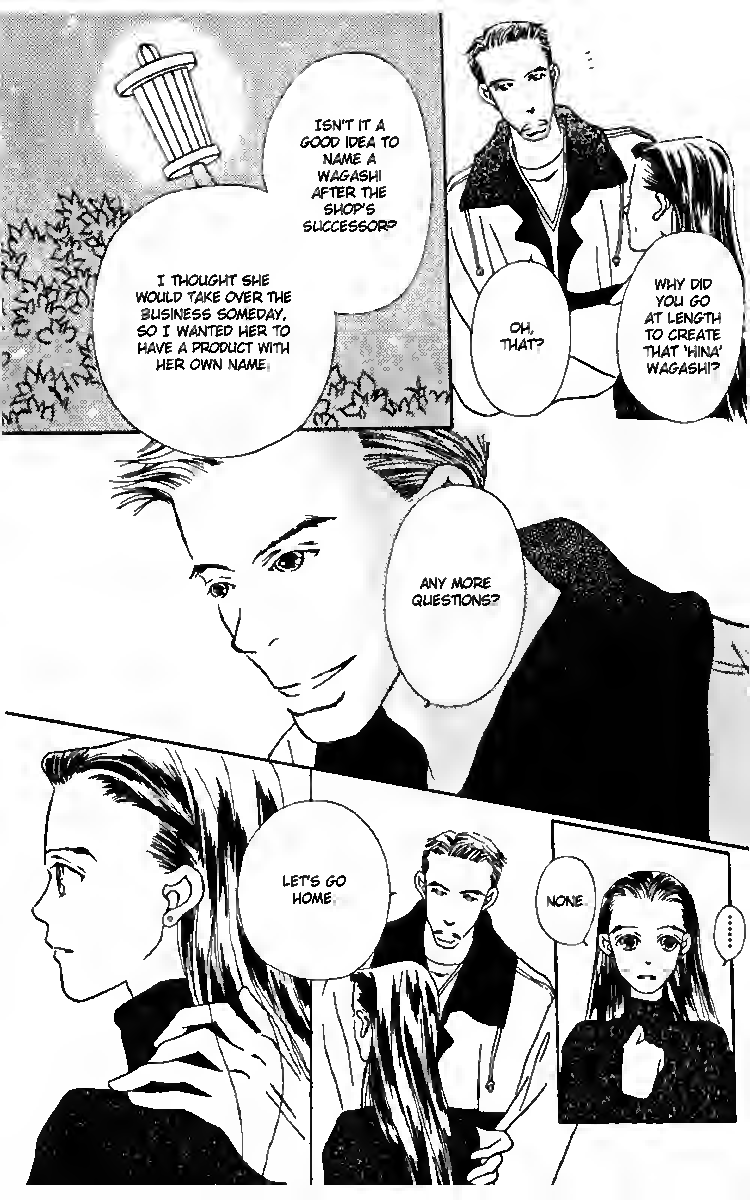
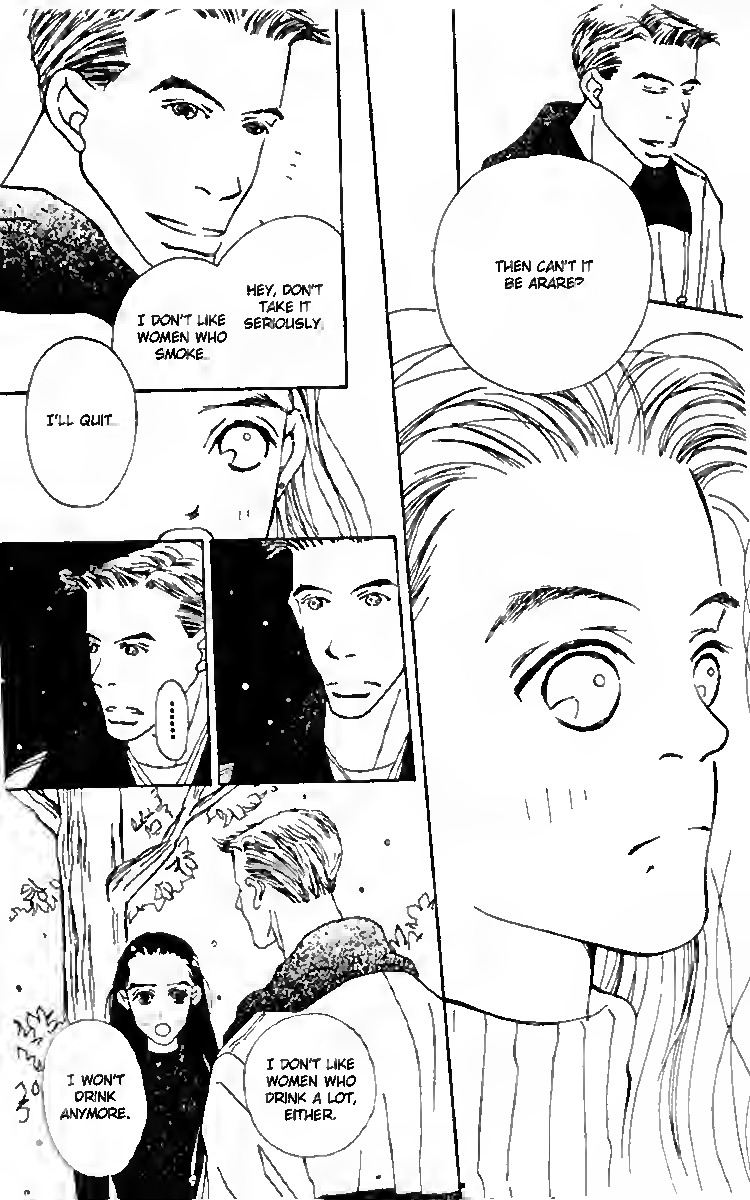
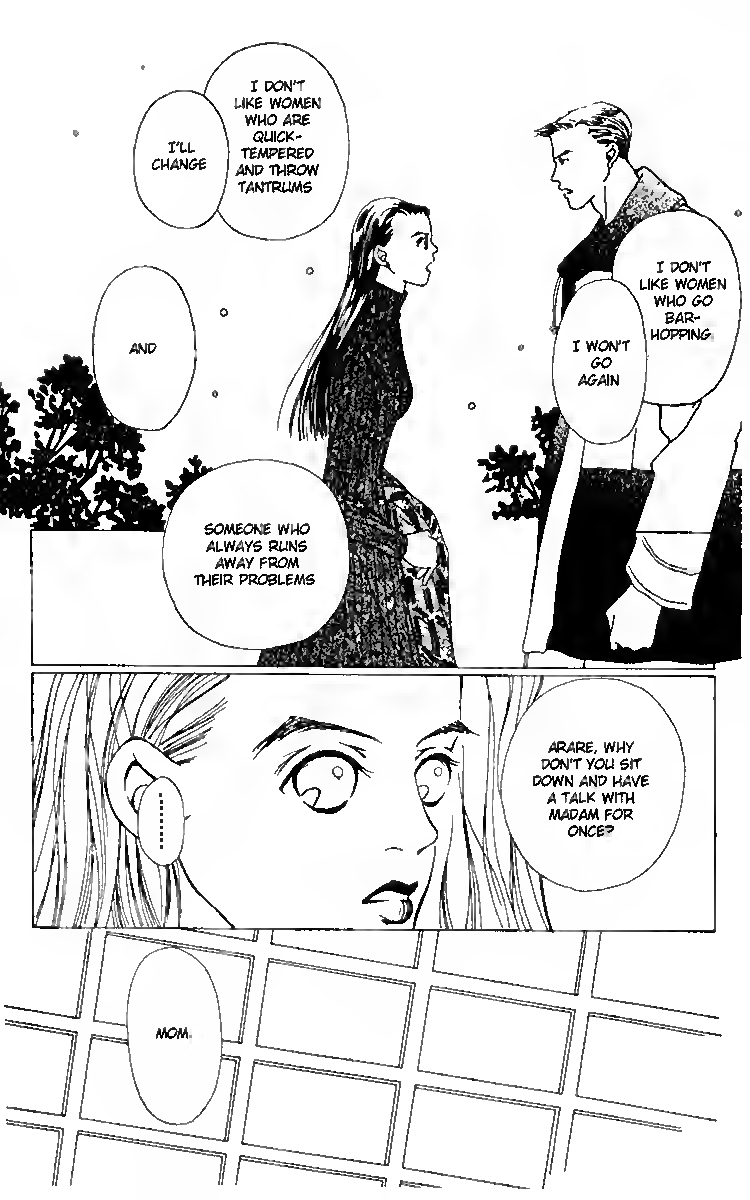
HE'S LAUGHING ..
HA HA HA, IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK.
WE'RE ABOUT THE SAME AGE.
I ALWAYS SAW HER WITH TOO MANY THINGS ON HER SHOULDERS, SO I WANTED TO HELP LIGHTEN HER BURDEN
REALLY LAUGHING...
WHEN MADAM RAISED THE ISSUE OF MARRIAGE, IT FELT KIND OF AWKWARD.
I HAD NEVER MEANT FOR IT TO TURN OUT THAT WAY


ISN'T IT A GOOD IDEA TO NAME A WAGASHI AFTER THE SHOP'S SUCCESSOR?
I THOUGHT SHE WOULD TAKE OVER THE BUSINESS SOMEDAY, SO I WANTED HER TO HAVE A PRODUCT WITH HER OWN NAME.
OH, THAT?
WHY DID YOU GO AT LENGTH TO CREATE THAT 'HINA' WAGASHI?
ANY MORE QUESTIONS?
LET'S GO HOME.
NONE.
.....

IS SHE GOING TO MARRY HINOYAMA-SAN?
.....
ONEE-CHAN..
KEN-CHAN, ARE YOU REALLY OKAY WITH THIS? ONEE-CHAN WON'T BE WITH OUR SHOP ANYMORE.
DIDN'T I ALWAYS YEARN FOR THIS?
THIS IS A RARE CHANCE TO HAVE A NICE TALK WITH HIM.
THEN WHY AM I SAYING SOMETHING THAT PUTS ME AT A DISADVAN-TAGE?
IS A SHAME, KEN-CHAN...
TO LET HER SLIP OUT OF YOUR HANDS
ONEE-CHAN IS CLEVER AND GOOD AT BUSINESS

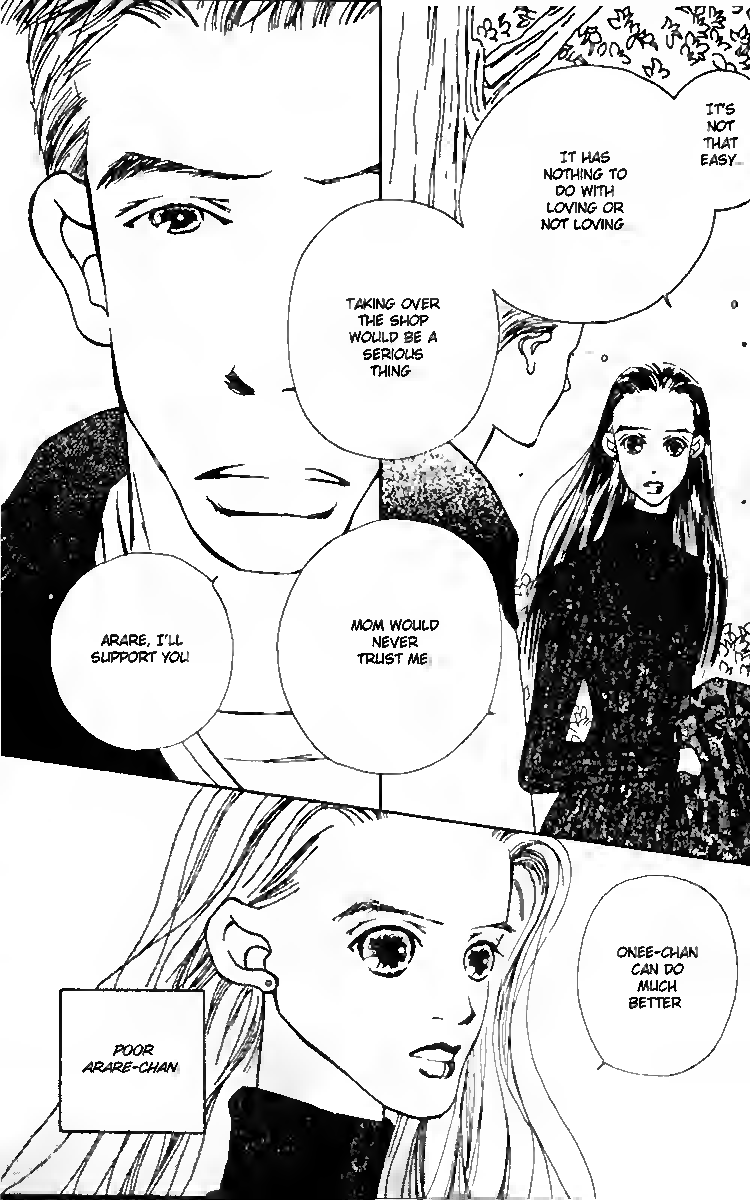

HEY, DON'T TAKE IT SERIOUSLY.
I DON'T LIKE WOMEN WHO SMOKE.
I'LL QUIT.
.....
THEN CAN'T IT BE ARARE?
I WON'T DRINK ANYMORE.
I DON'T LIKE WOMEN WHO DRINK A LOT, EITHER.


I DON'T LIKE WOMEN WHO ARE QUICK-TEMPERED AND THROW TANTRUMS
I'LL CHANGE
AND
SOMEONE WHO ALWAYS RUNS AWAY FROM THEIR PROBLEMS
I DON'T LIKE WOMEN WHO GO BAR-HOPPING
I WON'T GO AGAIN
.....
ARARE, WHY DON'T YOU SIT DOWN AND HAVE A TALK WITH MADAM FOR ONCE?
MOM.

HANA,
YOU'D BETTER BE PREPARED.
ANYWAY, YOU'RE MORE MATURE THAN ARARE IN TERMS OF EMOTIONS.
BUT HOW MUCH CAN YOU DO, RIGHT? YOU'RE STILL A MIDDLE-SCHOOLER.
BOTH HINA AND ARARE, DOESN'T ANYBODY CARE ABOUT THIS SHOP AT ALL?
MOM, YOU MUST HAVE NOT KNOWN. ARARE-CHAN GOT AN OFFER FROM A COMPANY,
BUT SHE'D LIKE TO HELP OUT IN THE SHOP SO SHE TURNED IT DOWN.

ARARE?
BUT EVEN SO, YOU ALWAYS TRIED TO KEEP HER OUT OF THE WAGASHI KITCHEN AND THE SHOP FRONT,
SAYING THAT SHE'S A TROUBLEMAKER. IT'S NOT FAIR TO HER, YOU KNOW
IT'S NOT FAIR TO ONEE-CHAN WHO WAS NEVER ALLOWED TO DO ANYTHING SHE LIKED, EITHER.
AND YOU EVEN PLANNED TO HAVE KENJI-SAN AND ONEE-CHAN TAKE OVER THE SHOP TOGETHER,
HAVE YOU ANY IDEA WHAT IT DID TO ARARE-CHAN'S FEELINGS?
KEN-CHAN WHAT?
Ah...
I got carried away.
That wasn't something I was supposed to say
WELL...

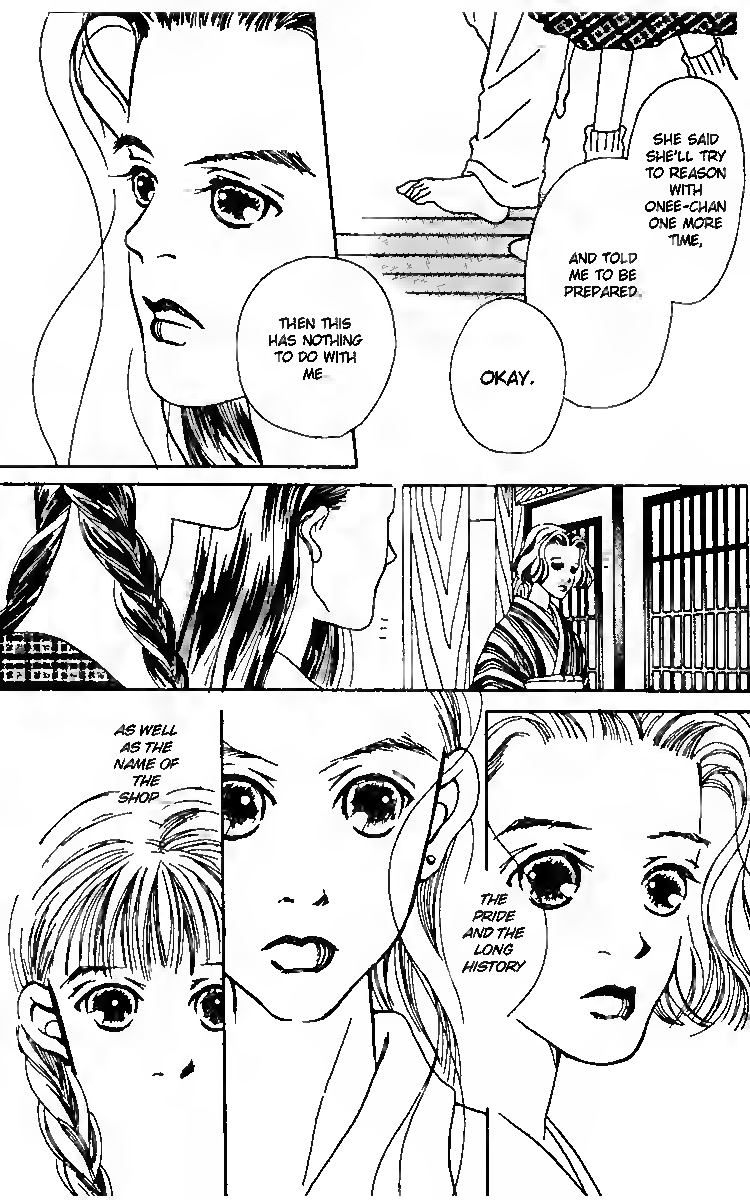
I'LL TAKE OVER THE SHOP.
ARARE LOVES KEN-CHAN?
ONEE-CHAN, YOU DON'T HAVE TO. I'LL BE THE 17TH SUCCESSOR MYSELF.
DON'T YOU LOVE WAGASHI THE MOST OUT OF YOUR SISTERS?
MISS HINA DIDN'T CARE MUCH FOR IT RIGHT FROM THE START.
SHE LOVES WAGASHI MORE THAN ONEE-CHAN AND I DO. MORE THAN ANYONE
REGARDLESS OF WHAT SHE SAID,
CAN SOMEONE WHO LOVES THE SHOP AS DEARLY AS YOU STAND THERE AND WATCH IT CLOSE DOWN WITHOUT A FIGHT?
DEEP DOWN ARARE-CHAN IS VERY PROUD OF OUR SHOP.

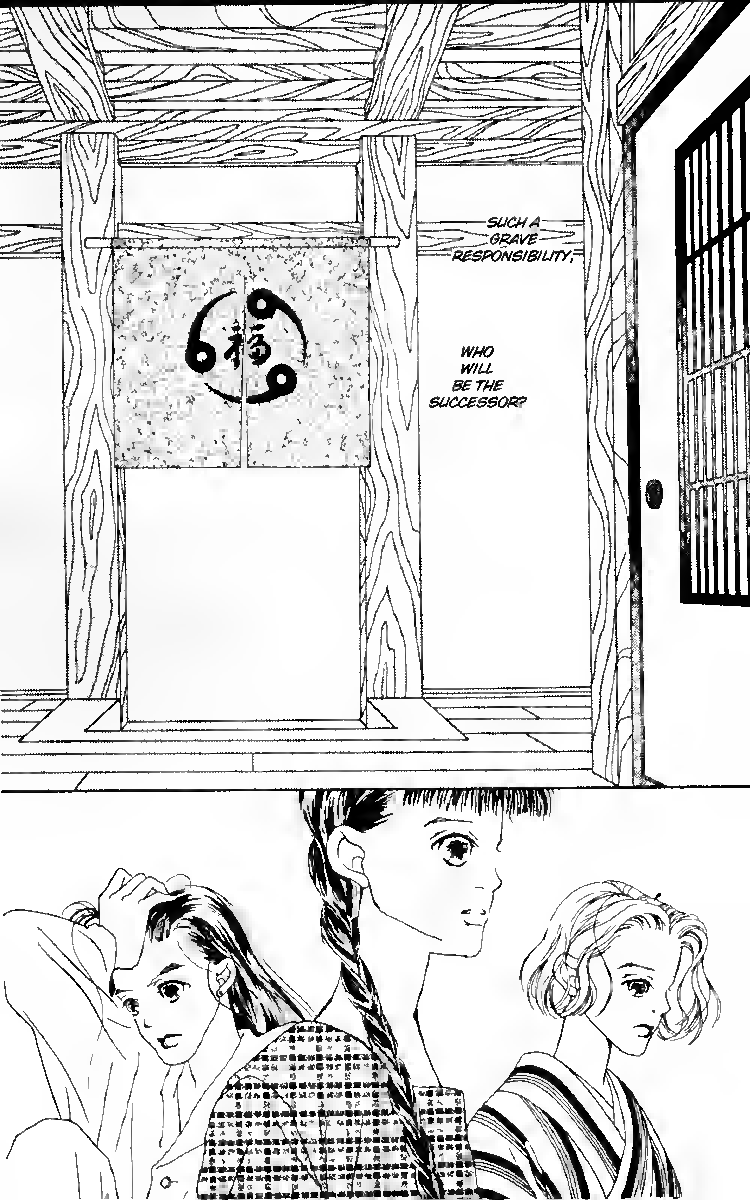

IT'S NOT THAT EASY...
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH LOVING OR NOT LOVING
TAKING OVER THE SHOP WOULD BE A SERIOUS THING
ARARE, I'LL SUPPORT YOU
MOM WOULD NEVER TRUST ME
ONEE-CHAN CAN DO MUCH BETTER
POOR ARARE-CHAN

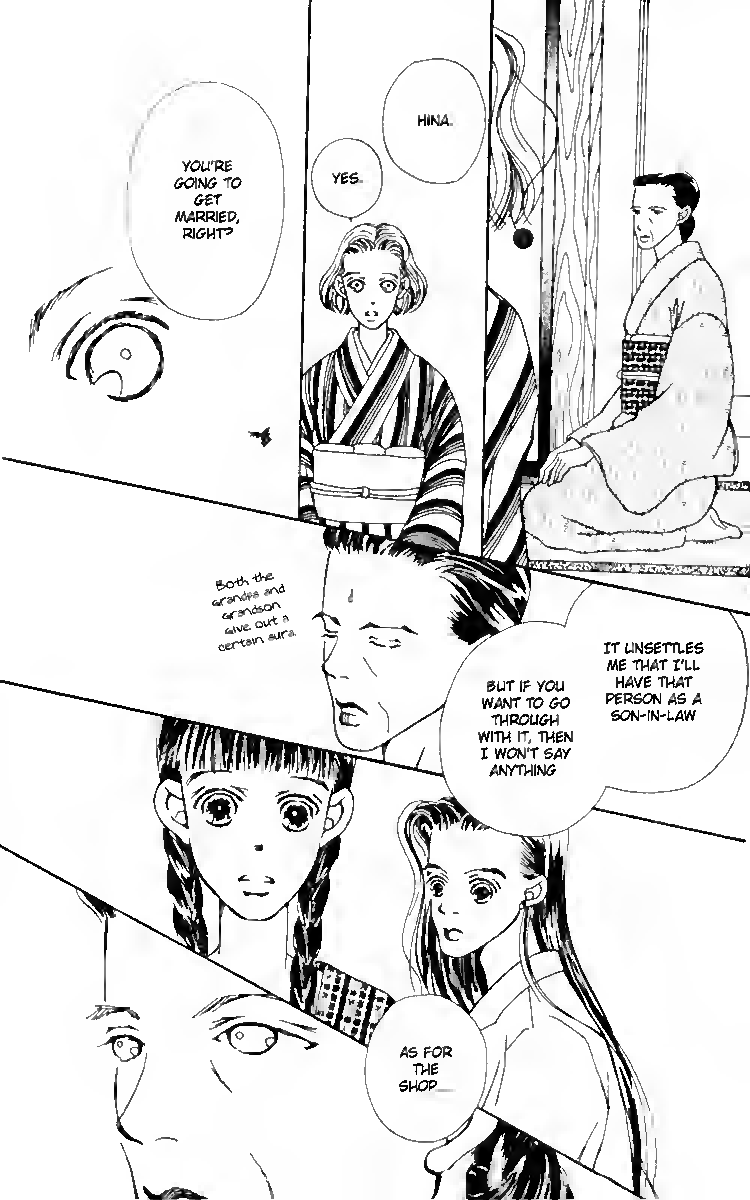
I CAN'T DO IT.
A SECOND DAUGHTER..
THE MORE PERFECT THE FIRST DAUGHTER, THE MORE PEOPLE SEE THE SECOND ONE AS INFERIOR. TO AVOID IMITATING HER SISTER, THE SECOND DAUGHTER REFUSES TO WALK ALONG THE SAME PATH.
IN THE END, SHE'S BRANDED AS AN OBSTINATE CHILD. POOR GIRL.
SOMEBODY..

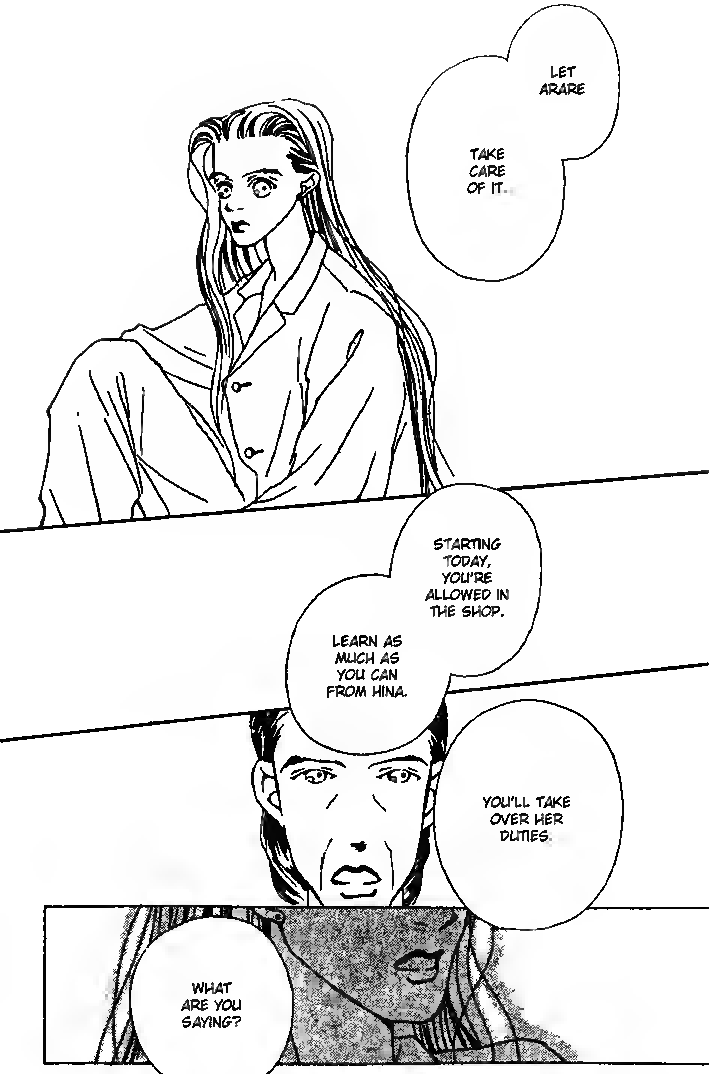
SOMEONE HELP ARARE-CHAN, PLEASE

ARARE-CHAN
ARARE-CHAN
HMM?
ARARE-CHAN, WAKE UP. MOM IS CALLING US.
HMM... HANA, THANKS FOR OPENING THE DOOR FOR ME LAST NIGHT.
MOM SAID SHE WANTED TO TALK TO ALL THREE OF US.


SHE SAID SHE'LL TRY TO REASON WITH ONEE-CHAN ONE MORE TIME,
AND TOLD ME TO BE PREPARED.
OKAY.
THEN THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME
AS WELL AS THE NAME OF THE SHOP
THE PRIDE AND THE LONG HISTORY


SUCH A GRAVE RESPONSIBILITY.
WHO WILL BE THE SUCCESSOR?


HINA.
YES.
YOU'RE GOING TO GET MARRIED, RIGHT?
Both the grandpa and grandson give out a certain aura.
IT UNSETTLES ME THAT I'LL HAVE THAT PERSON AS A SON-IN-LAW
BUT IF YOU WANT TO GO THROUGH WITH IT, THEN I WON'T SAY ANYTHING
AS FOR THE SHOP...


LET ARARE TAKE CARE OF IT.
STARTING TODAY, YOU'RE ALLOWED IN THE SHOP.
LEARN AS MUCH AS YOU CAN FROM HINA.
YOU'LL TAKE OVER HER DUTIES.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

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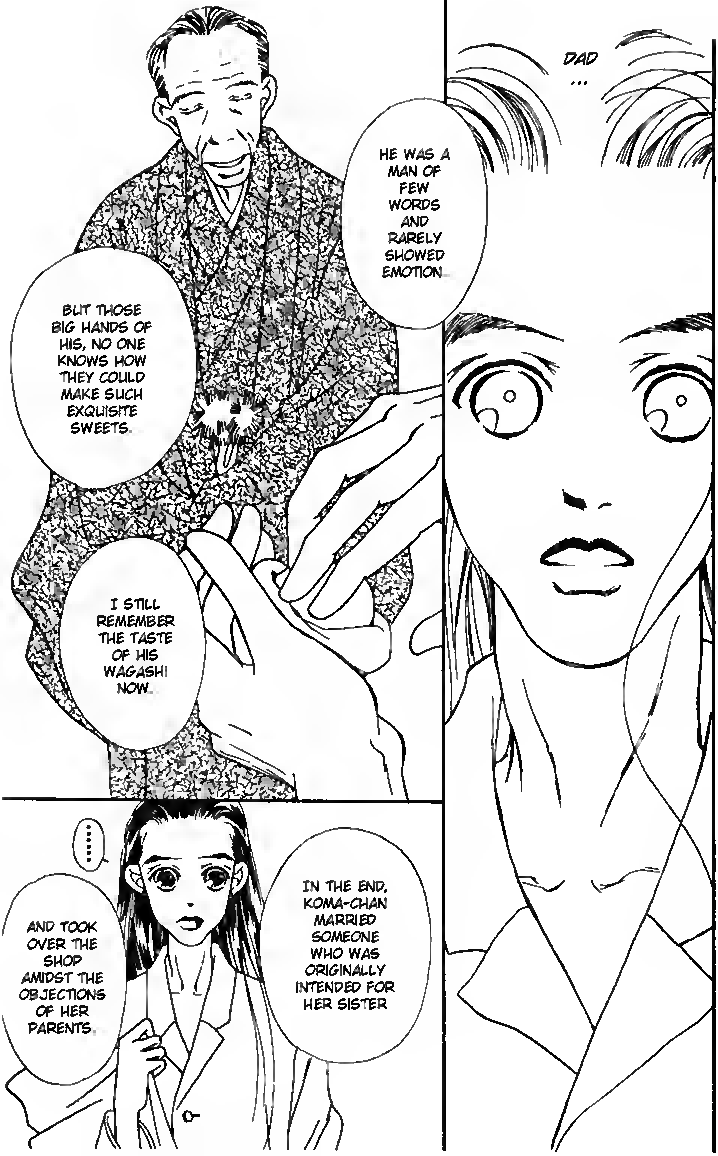
WHAT A SELFISH PERSON YOU ARE.
ONEE-CHAN AND I WEREN'T BORN FOR THIS SHOP, YOU KNOW.
ALWAYS DICTATING PEOPLE'S LIVES!
GOOD MORNING.
BEFORE, I COULDN'T TAKE ONE STEP INSIDE THE WAGASHI KITCHEN WITHOUT AN EARFUL, AND NOW YOU'RE SAYING THIS?
I WON'T BEND TO YOUR COMMAND.
ARARE!
ARARE!

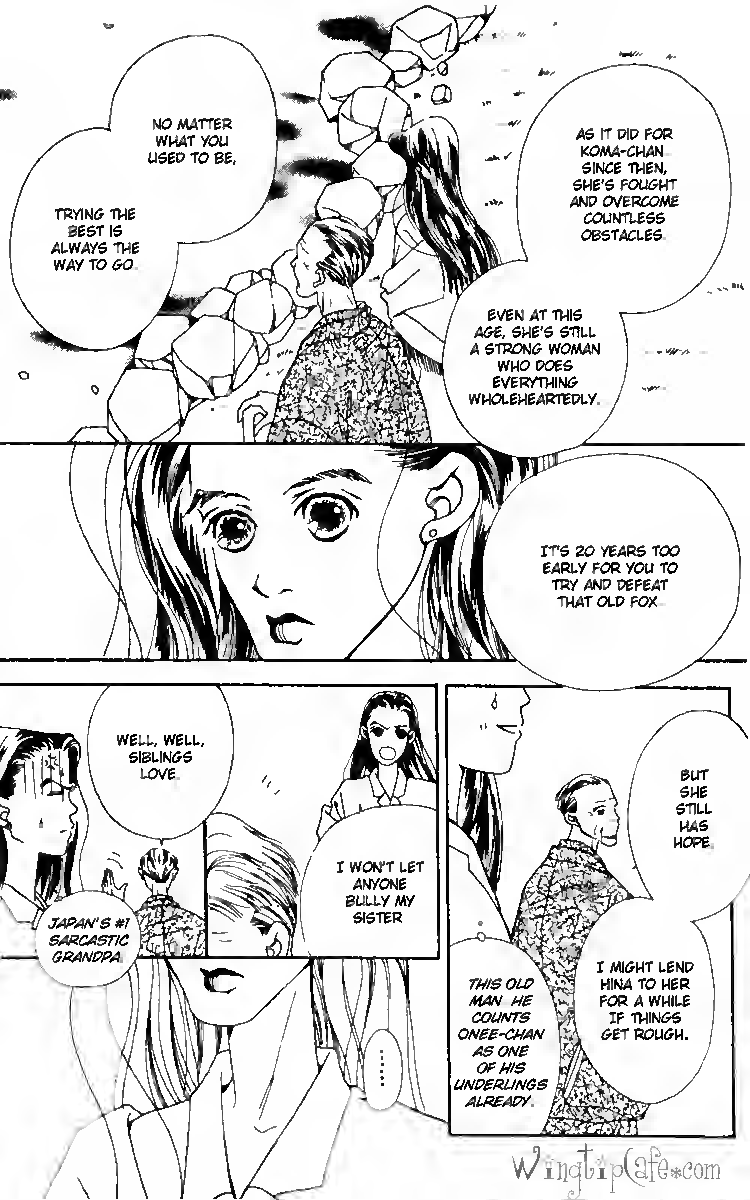
Harmony
MOM IS AN IDIOT
AGAIN, KOMA-CHAN?
.....
HINOYAMA-SAN.
AH.
I DON'T LIKE WOMEN WHO ARE QUICK-TEMPERED AND THROW TANTRUMS.
ACK! I DID IT AGAIN
Why am I such a hotheaded person?

THE PEACH SEASON IS SUPPOSED TO BE HERE SOON, BUT THE WEATHER STILL WON'T GET WARMER.
SARCAS-TIC FREAK
I'M IN A BAD MOOD I WON'T BE A GOOD CHIT-CHAT PARTNER FOR YOU
BAD MOOD? YOU LOOK QUITE CHEERFUL TO ME.
SHE HAD TO TAKE OVER THE SHOP IN HER SISTER'S PLACE
IT WAS THE SAME IN KOMA-CHAN'S TIME AS WELL.
MOM?!
OH DEAR, YOUR FAMILY IS QUITE BLESSED WITH TROUBLE
AS IF WE WANTED IT. GEEZ

HER OLDER SISTER GOT MARRIED AND MOVED TO OSAKA CITY.
YEAH, SHE'S A SECOND DAUGHTER TOO
.....
KOMA-CHAN WAS KNOWN IN THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD FOR BEING AN OBSTINATE CHILD.
AS A MATTER OF FACT, YOU AREN'T MUCH WORSE THAN SHE WAS.
HER PARENTS INTENDED FOR HER MORE SERIOUS AND OBEDIENT OLDER SISTER TO BE THE SUCCESSOR.
THEN HOW COME MOM WAS THE ONE?
BECAUSE SHE FELL IN LOVE WITH A WAGASHI CHEF.


DAD ...
HE WAS A MAN OF FEW WORDS AND RARELY SHOWED EMOTION.
BUT THOSE BIG HANDS OF HIS, NO ONE KNOWS HOW THEY COULD MAKE SUCH EXQUISITE SWEETS.
I STILL REMEMBER THE TASTE OF HIS WAGASHI NOW.
IN THE END, KOMA-CHAN MARRIED SOMEONE WHO WAS ORIGINALLY INTENDED FOR HER SISTER
.....
AND TOOK OVER THE SHOP AMIDST THE OBJECTIONS OF HER PARENTS.

I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN THIS CITY.
KYOTO IS FULL OF SHOPS WITH ANCIENT HISTORY.
I'VE SEEN SO MANY OF THEM.
A NOREN CAN REALLY CHANGE A PERSON'S LIFE


NO MATTER WHAT YOU USED TO BE,
TRYING THE BEST IS ALWAYS THE WAY TO GO.
AS IT DID FOR KOMA-CHAN SINCE THEN, SHE'S FOUGHT AND OVERCOME COUNTLESS OBSTACLES.
EVEN AT THIS AGE, SHE'S STILL A STRONG WOMAN WHO DOES EVERYTHING WHOLEHEARTEDLY.
IT'S 20 YEARS TOO EARLY FOR YOU TO TRY AND DEFEAT THAT OLD FOX.
WELL, WELL, SIBLINGS LOVE.
JAPAN'S #1 SARCASTIC GRANDPA.
I WON'T LET ANYONE BULLY MY SISTER
.....
BUT SHE STILL HAS HOPE.
I MIGHT LEND HINA TO HER FOR A WHILE IF THINGS GET ROUGH.
THIS OLD MAN HE COUNTS ONEE-CHAN AS ONE OF HIS UNDERLINGS ALREADY.

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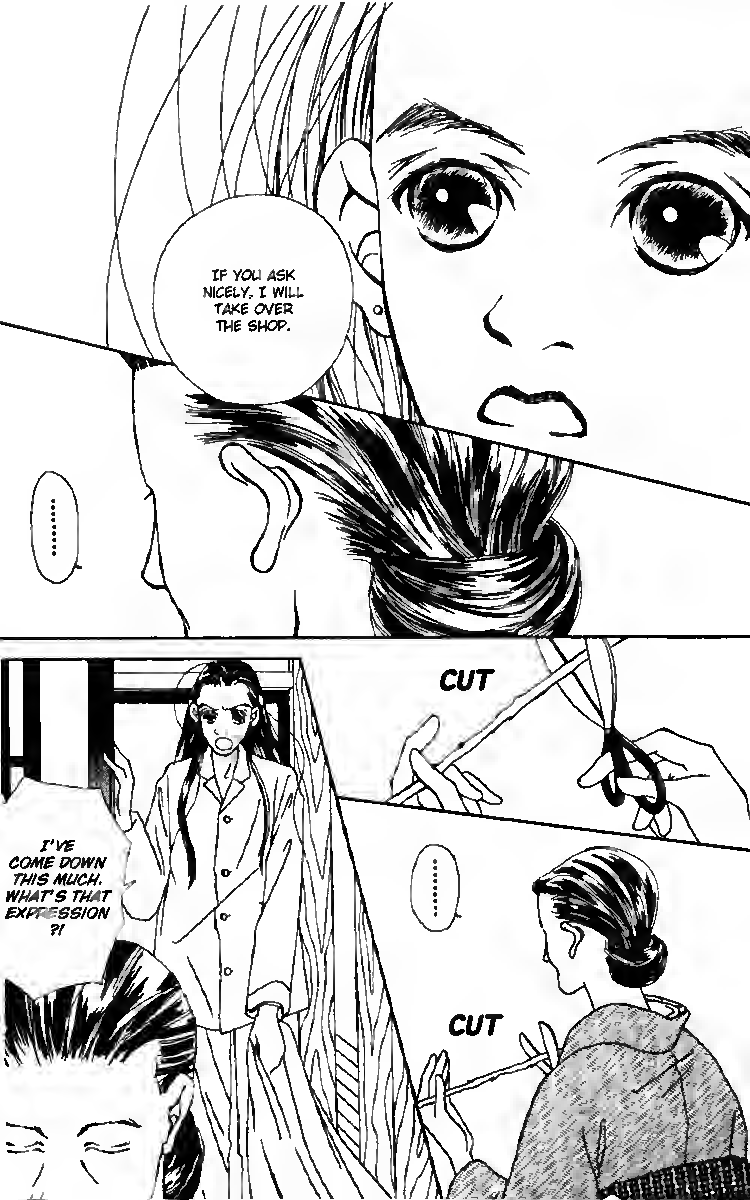
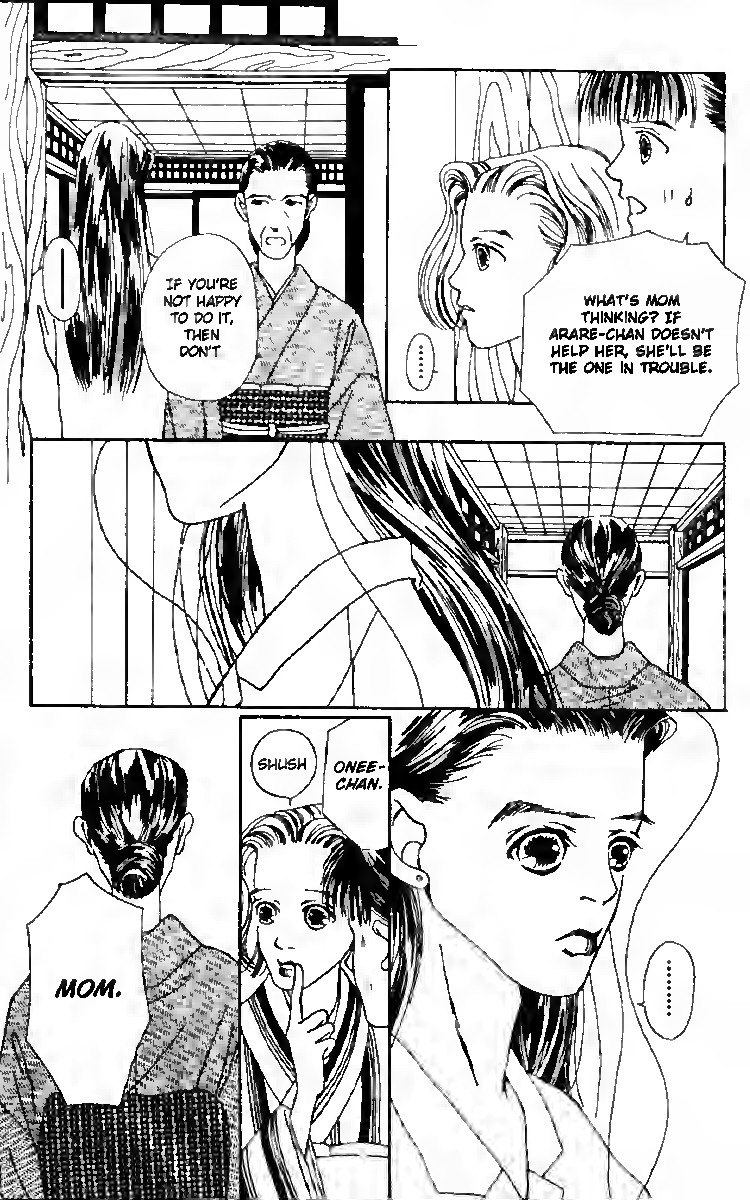
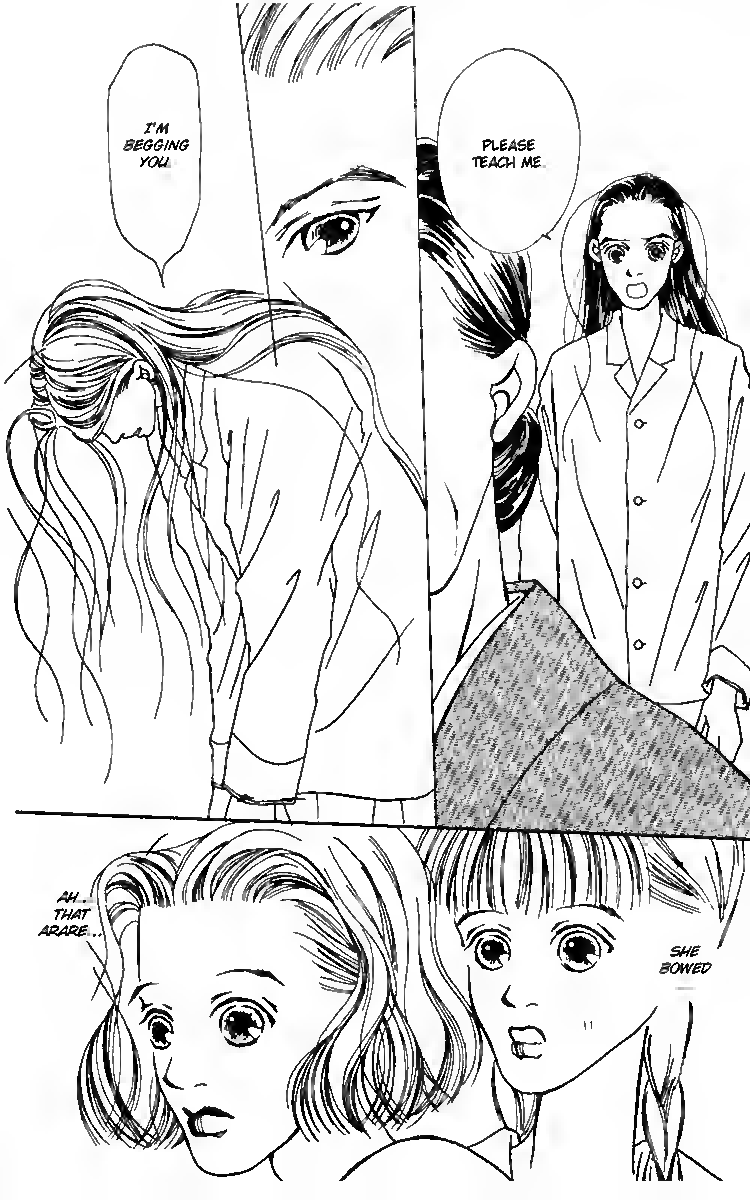
A NOREN CAN REALLY CHANGE A PERSON'S LIFE.
.....
WHAT IF ARARE-CHAN JUST WON'T DO IT, WHAT WOULD WE DO?
EHH! I'M STILL IN MIDDLE SCHOOL. TO HAVE MY LIFE PRE-DESTINED LIKE THIS IS...
COME ON, MINE WAS RIGHT FROM THE SECOND I WAS BORN
YEAH... WHAT ABOUT HANA?
Fukuya
FUKUYA'S MADAM?
I'M BACK
so scary

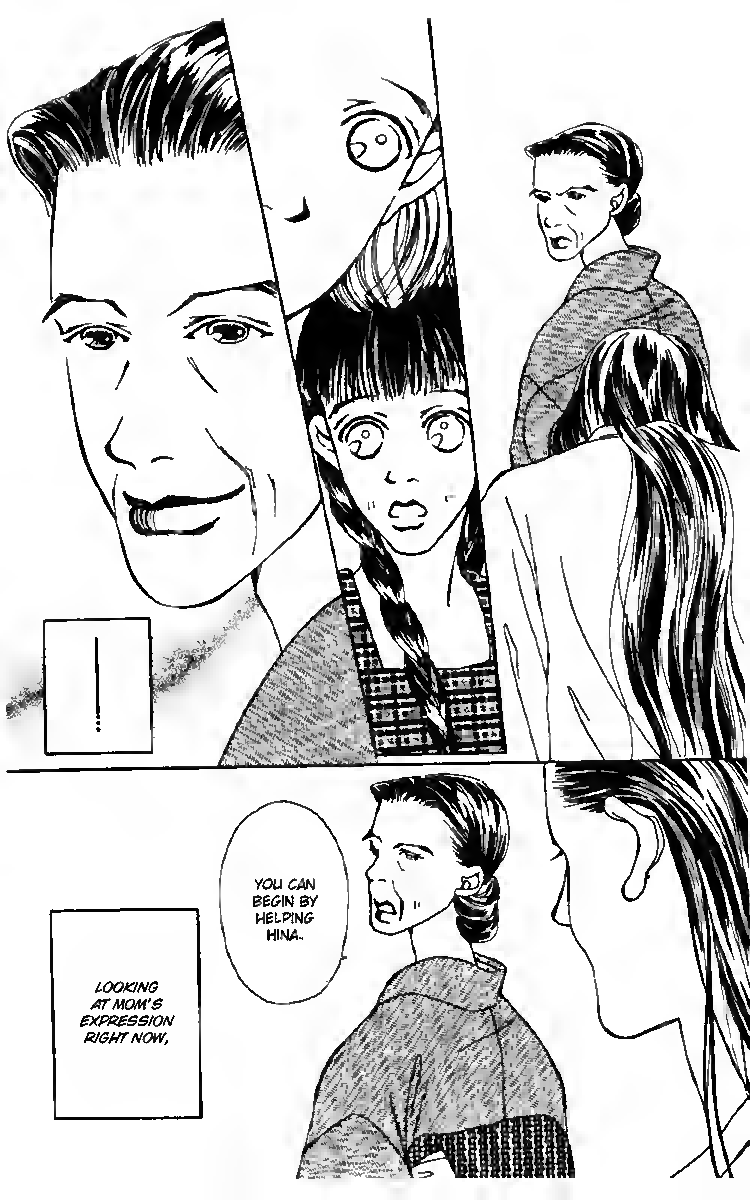
!
WHERE'S MOM?
INSIDE.
I SEE.
.....
SLIDE
.....

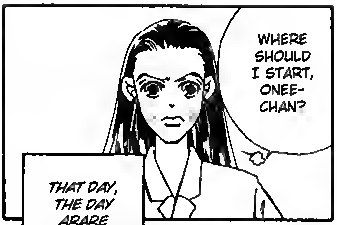

IF YOU ASK NICELY, I WILL TAKE OVER THE SHOP.
.....
CUT
I'VE COME DOWN THIS MUCH. WHAT'S THAT EXPRESSION ?!
.....
CUT

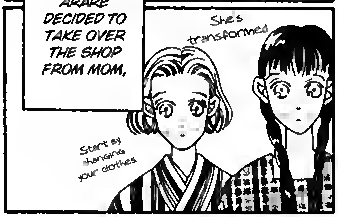
DON'T YOU REALIZE WHAT POSITION YOU'RE IN?!
YOU'RE IN OVER YOUR HEAD.
GO AND GET YOUR WORDS STRAIGHT BEFORE COMING BACK TO TALK TO ME.
I'M THE ONE WHO WILL SHOW YOU THE ROPES. YOU'D BETTER BOW AND GROVEL TO ME.
THE PERSON WHO SHOULD DO THE BEGGING IS YOU.

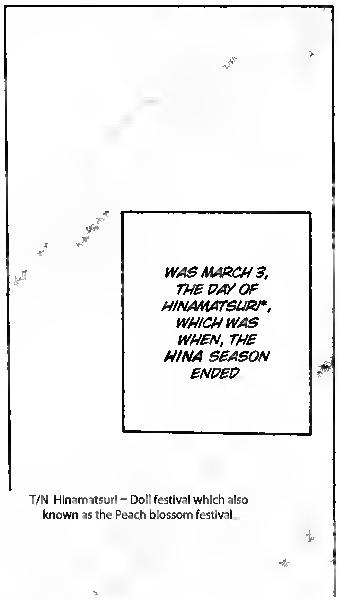

IF YOU'RE NOT HAPPY TO DO IT, THEN DON'T
WHAT'S MOM THINKING? IF ARARE-CHAN DOESN'T HELP HER, SHE'LL BE THE ONE IN TROUBLE.
SHUSH
ONEE-CHAN.
MOM.


I'M BEGGING YOU.
PLEASE TEACH ME.
AH... THAT ARARE...
SHE BOWED

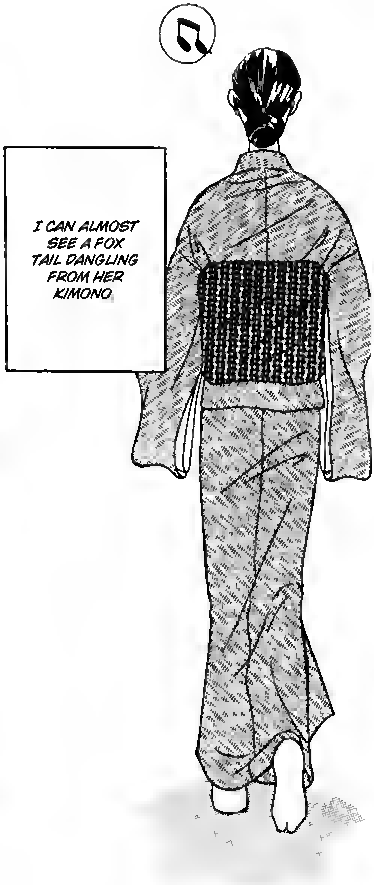

!!
YOU CAN BEGIN BY HELPING HINA.
LOOKING AT MOM'S EXPRESSION RIGHT NOW,







T/N Hinamatsuri – Doll festival which also known as the Peach blossom festival...



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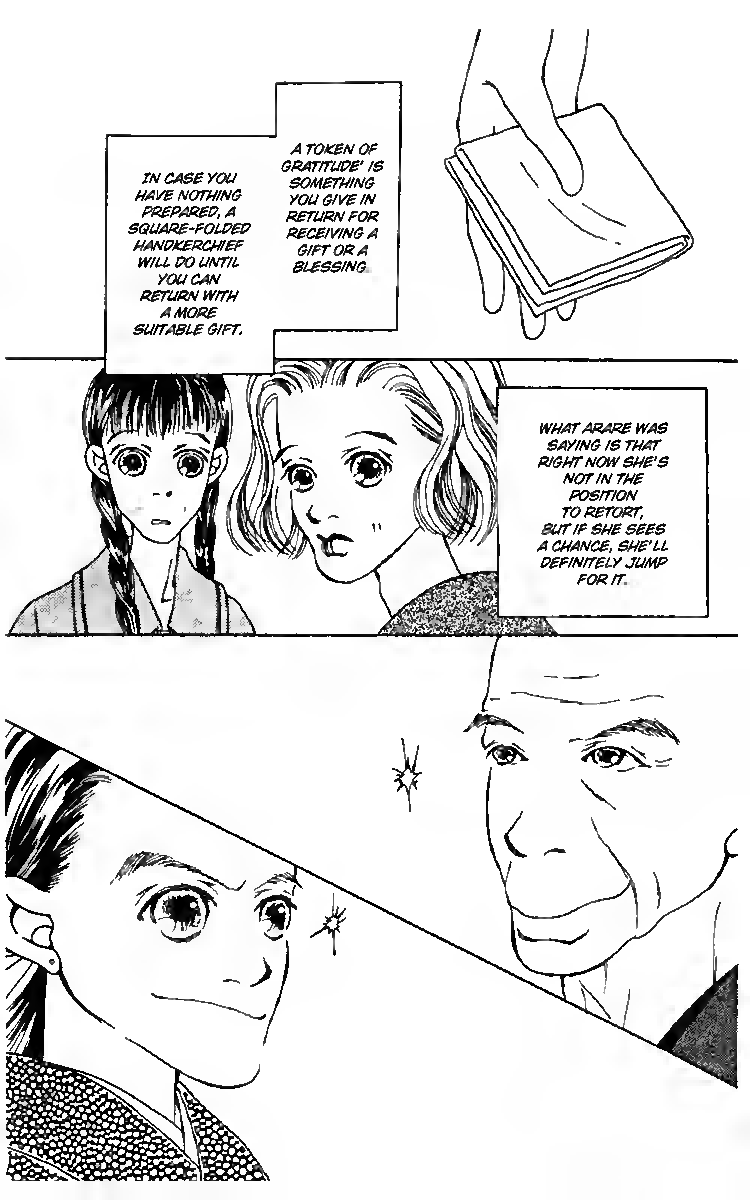
SCRUB SCRUB
ARARE, ARE YOU DONE?
YES, MA'AM.
EEP
STROKE
WHERE IS THE WAGASHI? ALL I GET TO DO IS CLEAN.
BORING.
STILL DIRTY
BLOW
Gosh what do you want from me? I'm not a professional cleaner!
STOP COMPLAINING. SOON I WON'T BE HERE. YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING IN THE HOUSE.
YOU YOURSELF NEVER LIFTED A FINGER BEFORE
and you expect your little sister to do it all?
EVERY-THING? WHAT ABOUT HANA?

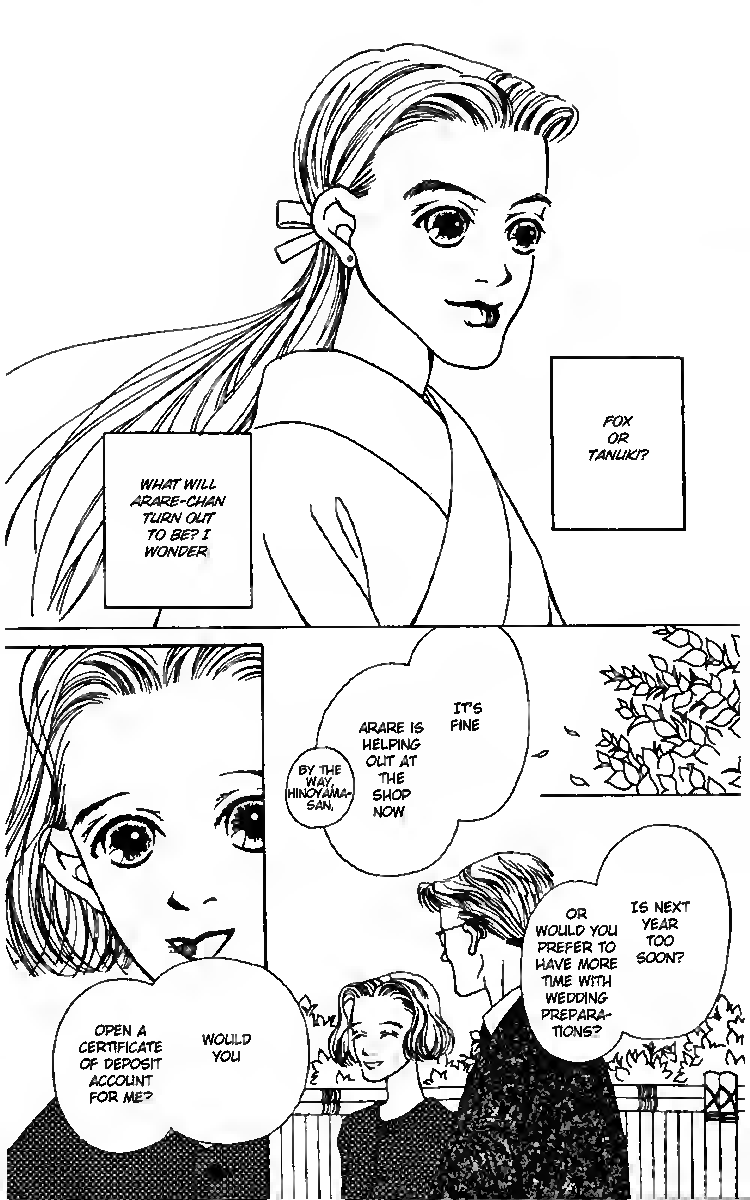
COME TO THINK OF IT, BEING HANA IS EASY.
SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO TAKE ANY RESPONSIBILITY.
AND AMONG THE THREE OF US, MOM WAS MOST LENIENT TO HER.
DOESN'T SHE KNOW HOW MISERABLE WE HAVE TO BE TO MAKE HER LIFE SO CAREFREE?
AND SHE LIKES TO SAY SHE HAS EVERYONE IN HER BEST INTEREST TOO.
OLDER SISTERS' GOSSIP TIME
She always runs to mom
YET SHE CAN'T DO ANYTHING.
HEY, HEY, WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
sounds fun
EEK
ARARE WILL COOK?
HANA, FROM NOW ON, I'LL BE MAKING YOUR LUNCHBOX.
NOTHING IMPORTANT.

GOOD MORNING.
LADIES.
And does that count as cooking?
Stop insulting me. I can boil water too
What else can you do except pour hot water?
Are you picking a fight with me?
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
FROM NOW ON, I'LL BUY THE BREAD.
OOPS
.....
OH, ISN'T THAT HINOYAMA-SAN? PLEASE DO COME IN.
HO! NOW THAT'S THE WAY TO TALK TO A CUSTOMER. NOW REFRESHING.

OH, DON'T TAKE IT SERIOUSLY. JUST THINK OF IT AS A BLESSING FROM AN OLD MAN.
EXCUSE ME.
WELL, I GUESS WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE.
GOOD, GOOD.
THOUGH I STILL WORRY WHETHER THE WAGASHI HERE WILL BE EDIBLE.
.....
A TOKEN OF GRATITUDE?
.....


A TOKEN OF GRATITUDE' IS SOMETHING YOU GIVE IN RETURN FOR RECEIVING A GIFT OR A BLESSING.
IN CASE YOU HAVE NOTHING PREPARED, A SQUARE-FOLDED HANDKERCHIEF WILL DO UNTIL YOU CAN RETURN WITH A MORE SUITABLE GIFT.
WHAT ARARE WAS SAYING IS THAT RIGHT NOW SHE'S NOT IN THE POSITION TO RETORT, BUT IF SHE SEES A CHANCE, SHE'LL DEFINITELY JUMP FOR IT.

BE SURE TO RETURN IT BEFORE I DIE.
THIS OLD MAN WILL BE WAITING
BLEH!
AND YOU'RE CAPABLE OF DOING SOMETHING WITTY LIKE THIS
HMM.
WELCOME
HELLO


WHAT WILL ARARE-CHAN TURN OUT TO BE? I WONDER
FOX OR TANUKI?
BY THE WAY, HINOYAMA-SAN,
ARARE IS HELPING OUT AT THE SHOP NOW
IT'S FINE
IS NEXT YEAR TOO SOON?
OR WOULD YOU PREFER TO HAVE MORE TIME WITH WEDDING PREPARA-TIONS?
WOULD YOU
OPEN A CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT ACCOUNT FOR ME?

THANK YOU.
OH, I HAVE SOMETHING TO ASK YOU.
HOW OLD ARE YOU, HINA-SAN?
EH? I'M 25
LOOKS LIKE ONEE-CHAN IS BEING MORE COOPERATIVE WITH HER HUSBAND-TO-BE.
25? I THOUGHT SHE WAS 21-22 AT MOST.
HINOYAMA-SAN, I HAVE SOMETHING TO ASK YOU TOO.
.....
WHAT'S YOUR GIVEN NAME?
GO-NGG
I WISH HER ALL THE BEST.

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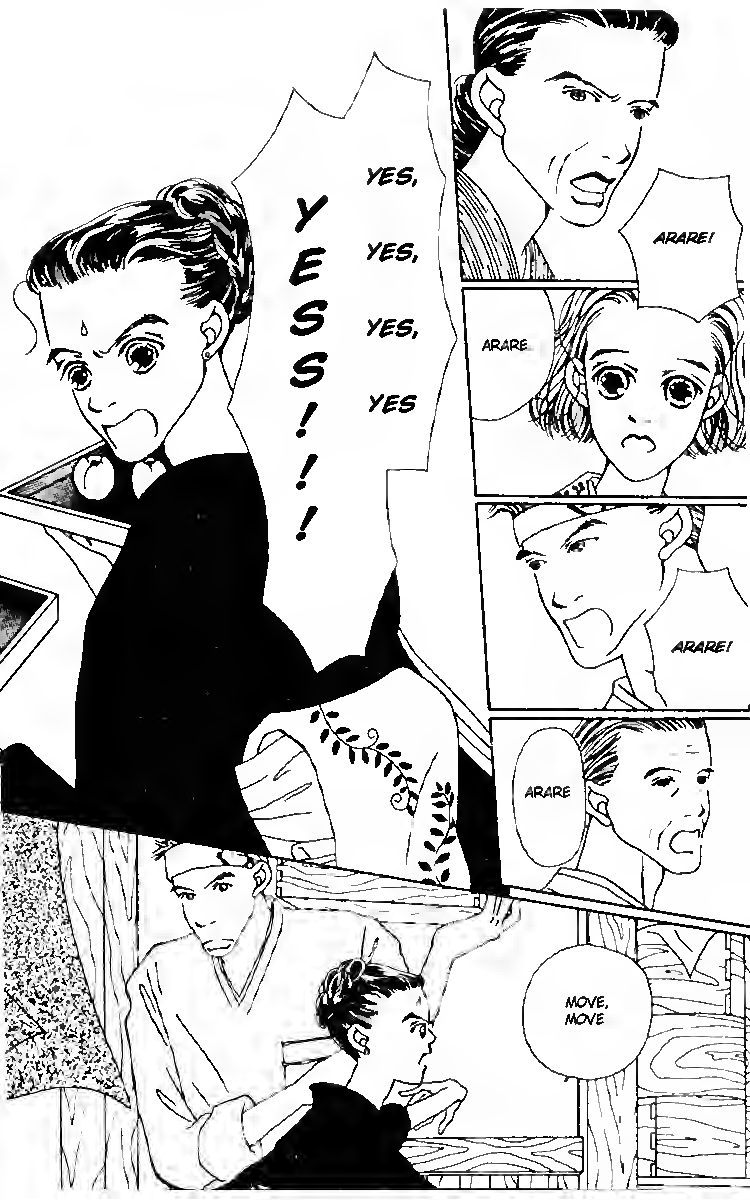
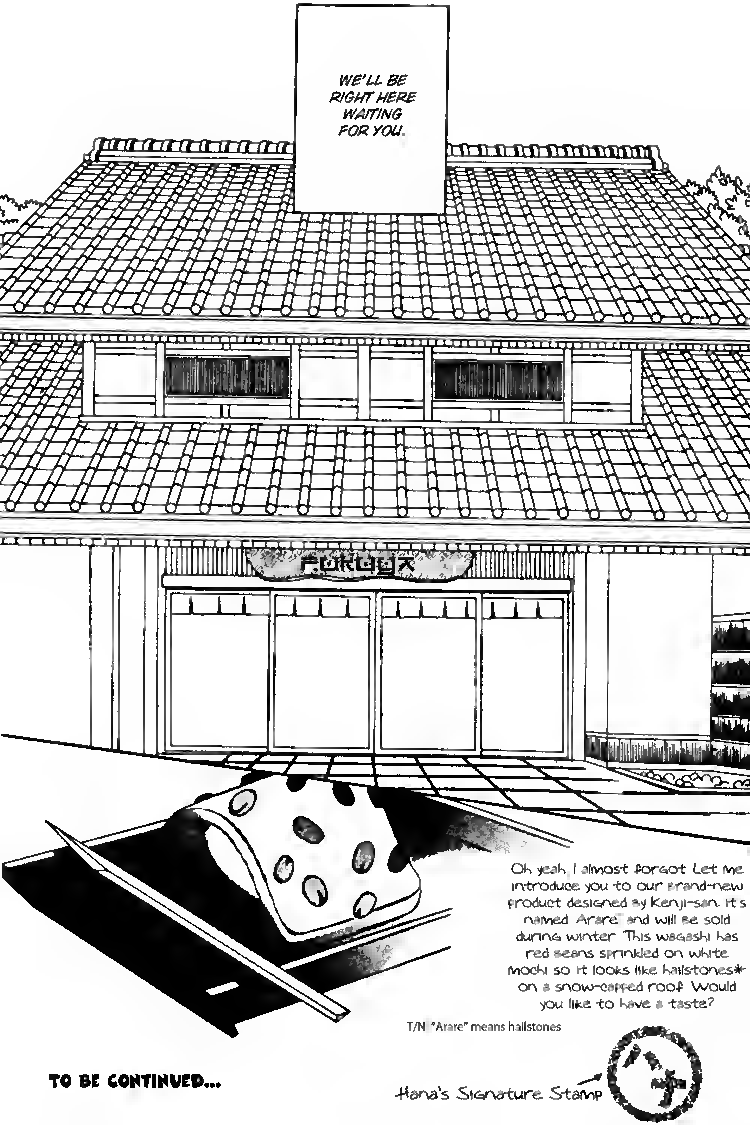

YES,
YES,
YES,
YES
YESS!!!
ARARE!
ARARE
ARARE!
ARARE
MOVE,
MOVE

TO DEAR HARD-WORKING ARARE, HANA HAS A REQUEST...
PLEASE WORK A LITTLE HARDER ON HANA'S LUNCHBOX, WOULD YOU?
My lunch today is plain rice and and egg.
One hard-boiled egg.
A delivery to Hinoyama-san's house
And
Erm, Ohashi-san ordered 200 manjuu
SOB
I HAVE TO LIVE OFF IORI'S LUNCH...
Yes, please.
WANT SOME FROM MY LUNCHBOX?

DEAR READERS,
I'LL START MAKING MY OWN LUNCHBOX TOMORROW.
HEE HEE
SO GOOD!
HOW WAS IT?
PLEASE DROP BY FUKUYA'S.
THE NEXT TIME YOU HAVE A CHANCE TO VISIT KYOTO,


WE'LL BE RIGHT HERE WAITING FOR YOU.
Oh yeah, I almost forgot. Let me introduce you to our brand-new product designed by Kenji-san. It's named "Arare" and will be sold during winter. This wagashi has red beans sprinkled on white mochi so it looks like hailstones on a snow-capped roof. Would you like to have a taste?
T/N: "Arare" means hailstones
TO BE CONTINUED...
Hana's Signature Stamp

Fukuyadou Honpo

by YUCHI Yayomi

Wings of Life.com

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Noren are cloth curtains hung on the entrances or doorways of Japanese shops to show that they are open for business. Old shops usually have their brand or family crest on the noren.

The word "noren " is also used to signify good will and credit of a shop, as its symbol. In opening a shop, one is said "to hang out the noren" and when establishing branch stores, the saying ie "to divide the noren."

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